MARVEL COMICS
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EXCALIBUR
MOJO MAYHEM
ARTHUR ADAMS
TERRY AUSTIN
TOO!

EXCALIBUR™

CREATED BY

CHRIS CLAREMONT & ALAN DAVIS

"MOJO MAYHEM"™

FEATURING THE X-BABIES™

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AS USUAL, WOLVIE STARTED IT.
HE WAS THE ONE WHO FOUND THE WAY OUT AT THE END OF THEIR LAST ADVENTURE*...
...AND THE OTHER X-BABIES, ADVENTURERS ALL, FOLLOWED.
*X-MEN ANNUAL #12.-- T.K.
LEAVING RICOCHET RITA-- WHO, AS THEIR (NEW-FOUND) FRIEND AND (MOST IMPORTANTLY) THE TOKEN ADULT, HAD SORT OF BEEN DRAFTED INTO THE ROLE OF CHAPERONE-- NO CHOICE BUT TO GO AFTER THEM.
HOPING AGAINST HOPE TO KEEP THEM OUT OF TROUBLE.
SHE REALLY SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.
THIS POOTS!
I WASN'T BORN TO RUN--
--LET'S FIGHT!

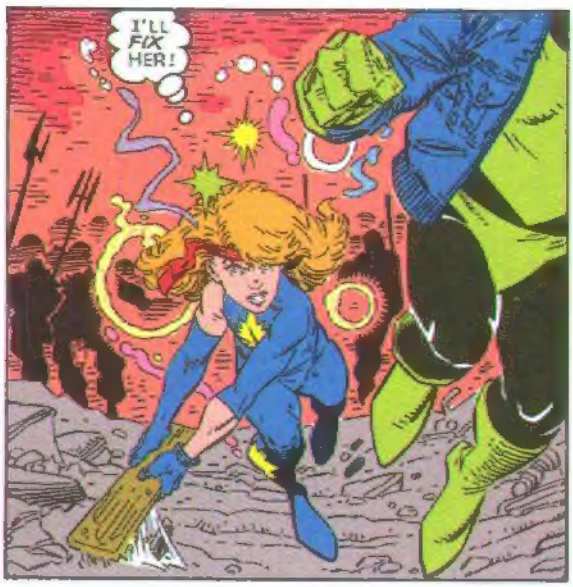
CONSIDERING THE ODDS, WOLVIE...
--LET'S NOT, OKAY?
THAT POOTS!
WOLVERINE, DO NOT BE RUDE.
I NEVER GET ANY FUN!
LIAR!
SPOIL-SPORT!
WHICH WAY?
ARE WE LOST?
REEETAAA, I GOTTA GO!
UNREGISTERED CHARACTER CONCEPTS--
--STAND AND BE EXPLOITED--
--IN THE NAME OF MOJO'S TRADEMARK POLICE!

HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP
HOWCUM WE CAN'T CHASE THEM?
NO FAIR!
THEY'RE GAINING!
C'MON, WE CAN BEAT EM!
BIG MOUTH!
THIS IS YOUR FAULT!
HOW DID I GET INTO THIS MESS?
BETTER YET, HOW DO I GET OUT?!

HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP HUP
THE FIRST IS EASY.
I GOT KIDNAPED TO THIS LOONY WORLD BY ITS RULER, MOJO.*
THE SECOND, THOUGH--
--THAT MAY TAKE SOME WORK!
MOJO MADE YOU TOP-RATED MEDIA SENSATIONS!
HE CAN BREAK YOU JUST AS EASY!
MT
MT
MT
*FOR DETAILS, SEE THE LONGSHOT TRADE PAPERBACK, NOW ON SALE.--T.K.

ONLY PERSON 'ROUND HERE WHO'S GONNA GET BROKE-- GRRR--
--IS ROGUE!

LITTLE LONGSHOT'S MY SWEETIE. SHE'S GOT NO RIGHT MAKING GOO-GOO EYES AT HIM!
THAT MAKES ME-- GRRRR-- SO MAD!

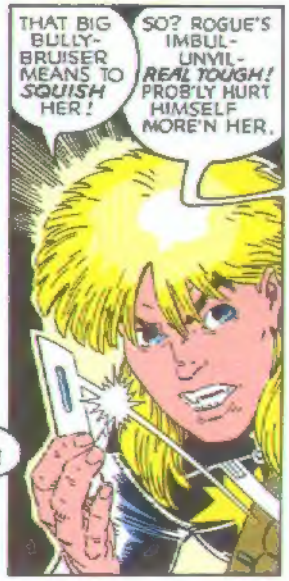

I'LL FIX HER!

Oops!
ROGUE, WATCH OUT FOR THAT BOARD!
Oh DEAR, YOU TRIPPED!
I HOPE THE FALL DOESN'T HURT.
HEY!

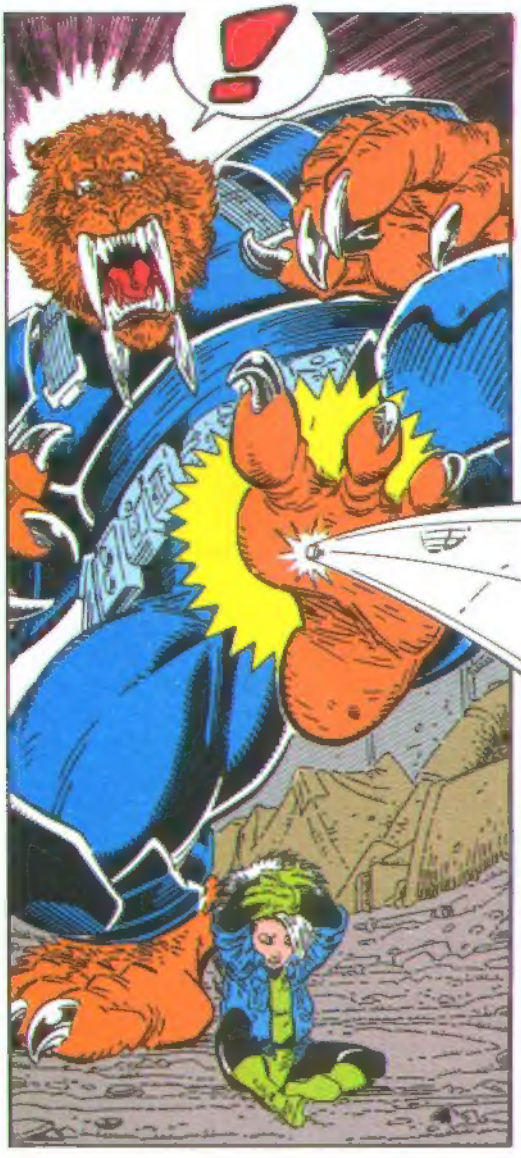
OBOY OBOY OBOY
LOOKITEE WHAT I FOUND!
WYAIEOWWW!
WISH THE STREET'D STOP SPINNING--
--WHO MADE IT SO HARD, ANYWAY--
--HOW'M AH S'POSED TO GET UP--
--IF AH CAN'T SEE THE RIGHT WAY T' GO?

NO NEED TO WORRY YORE PRETTY LI'L HEAD ON THAT SCORE, SWEETIE...
COMRADE, ROGUE NEEDS HELP!
SHE'S SO TOUGH.
SHE CAN SAVE HERSELF.

...OL' TRACKER-TIGER'LL SEE TO THAT...
...oh YES HE WILL...
...WITH PLEASURE!


THAT BIG BULLY-BRUISER MEANS TO SQUISH HER!
SO? ROGUE'S IMBUL-UNVIL-REAL TOUGH! PROB'LY HURT HIMSELF MORE'N HER.

WE DARE NOT TAKE THAT RISK, DAZZLER.
COLOSSUS -- GEEZ -- WHY DO YOU GUYS ALWAYS HAVE TO BE SUCH...
...HEROES!
LONGSHOT, YOUR SPIKES ARE SO SMALL. HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY--?!
IF HIS HEARTS ARE PURE, RITA, HIS MOTIVES NOBLE...
...THEN THE BEST OF LUCK SHALL GUIDE HIS AIM.
THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM SPECIAL, SEE?
SHE GOT EYES, AIN'T SHE?



INVASION
ATLANTIS ATTACKS
SECRET WARS II
LEGENDS
CRISIS
SECRET WARS
--OVER THERE!
LAST ONE UP THE STEPS IS A MOJO-MELON!
NO! HOLD UP!! WAIT!
BUT YOU TOLD US TO RUN FASTER!
MAKE UP YOUR MIND!
THE DOORWAY'S GLOWING, PSYLOCKE!
THAT COULD MEAN A TRAP, OR WORSE! HOW DO WE KNOW IT'S SAFE?
ONE SURE WAY TO FIND OUT.

YOU'RE THE GROWN-UP, MISS RICOCHET, YOU TELL US WHAT TO DO.
I'LL HOLD 'EM BACK, 'TIL YOU DECIDE.
THAT'S THE WAY, HAVOK!
FRY THOSE MOJOCOPS GOOD!
Huh?! BUT THAT'S NOT MY-- I MEAN, I NEVER-- JUST 'CAUSE I'M OLDER DOESN'T--
--I'M ONLY A *MOVIE STUNTWOMAN,* FOR GOSH SAKES!
A *LONER*--
--RESPONSIBLE ONLY FOR *MYSELF!*
Ohhh-- IF YOU WEREN'T KIDS, I'D SAY SOMETHING REALLY *RUDE*--
SAY IT, *SAY IT!*
INSIDE!

EVERYONE OKAY? RIGHT NUMBER OF FINGERS AND TOES?
RITA, SOME OF OUR CLOTHES HAVE CHANGED.
AH WANT MY JACKET BACK.
AH HAD REALLY *NEAT* STUFF IN THE POCKETS!
MY HAIR HAS GONE ALL LONG.
NOTHING HAPPENED TO *US.*
SOME PEOPLE HOG *ALL* THE FUN!
ENOUGH WITH THIS STUPID FASHION SHOW--

--WHAT ABOUT THE *MOJOCOPS?!*
THE *FORBIDDEN ZONE!*
WE GOT OUR ORDERS.
UNLESS--SOMEBODY WANTS TO ARGUE WITH THE BOSS?

DIN'T THINK SO.
NOT TOO SHABBY.
I FEEL ALL-NEW, ALL DIFFERENT--
--BURSTING WITH *POWER!*
NOW, WHERE ARE THOSE LITTLE RUNTS--?!
HT

OVER THERE!
LET'S GET 'EM!
KEEP

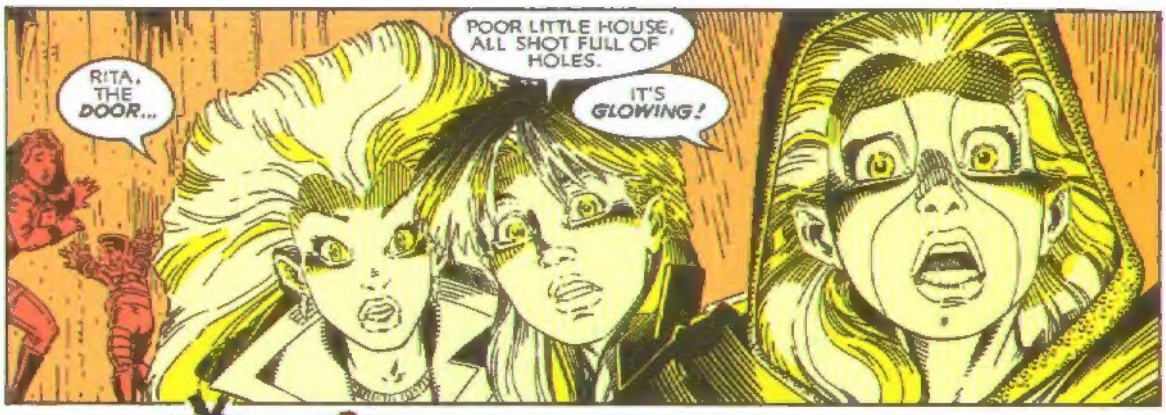
HEAVE, YA DOG-FACES--
YOU BETTER SMILE, SHLEP, WHEN YOU CALL ME THAT!
--whoa, SORRY, POOCH. NO OFFENSE.
KEEP

HEY-- NOTHIN'S HAPPENING!
THE DOOR WON'T BUDGE!
Tee hee.

THOSE STRUCTURES OUTSIDE--
--THEY ALL SEEM TO EMANATE FROM THIS ONE LITTLE BIT.
IT SEEMS TO SUPPORT THE WHOLE UNGAINLY MESS.
BOY, WHOEVER BUILT THIS CERTAINLY KNEW THEIR STUFF.
OPEN TO BRIGHT IDEAS, KIDS.
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
THE HOUSE OF JACK-O'-STAR
IT HAS A DOOR.
GREAT, STORMY. WE'LL TRAP OURSELVES IN AN EVEN SMALLER ROOM.

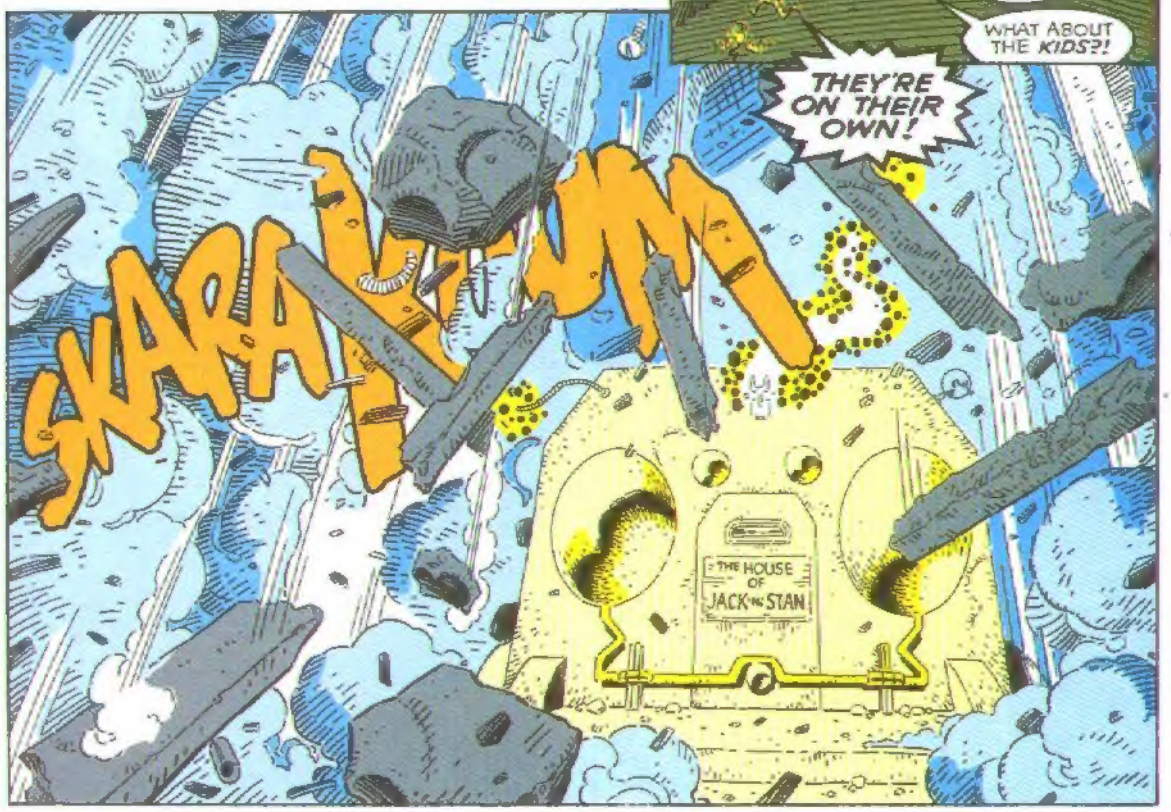
IF WE CAN'T SHIFT THE DOOR...
...WE'LL SIMPLY BLAST IT OUT OF OUR WAY!
SHABOW

VARK
VARK
VARK
YOW!
GRAB COVER, KIDS!
THEY MEAN BUSINESS!


RITA, THE DOOR...
POOR LITTLE HOUSE, ALL SHOT FULL OF HOLES.
IT'S GLOWING!

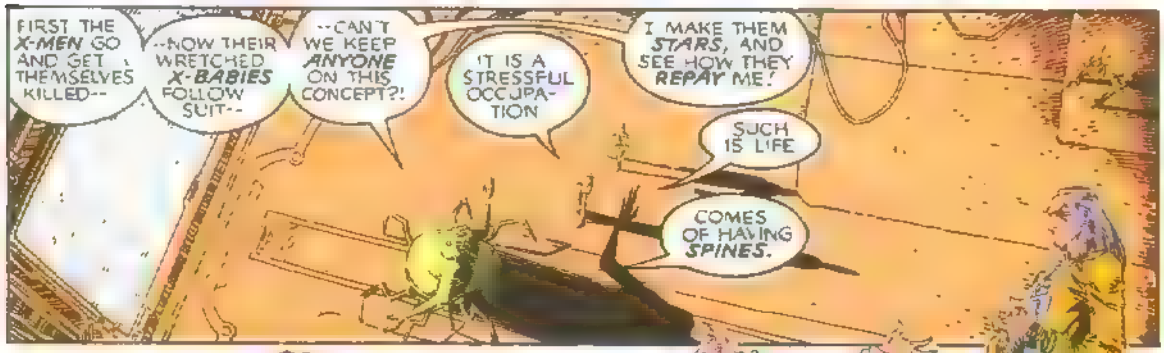
creeeak
GROANNN
CRUMMBL
Uh-oh.
Uh, SARGE--
--D'YA FIGURE UNRESTRAINED HIPOWER HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE...
...MAYBE WASN'T SUCH A BRIGHT IDEA?

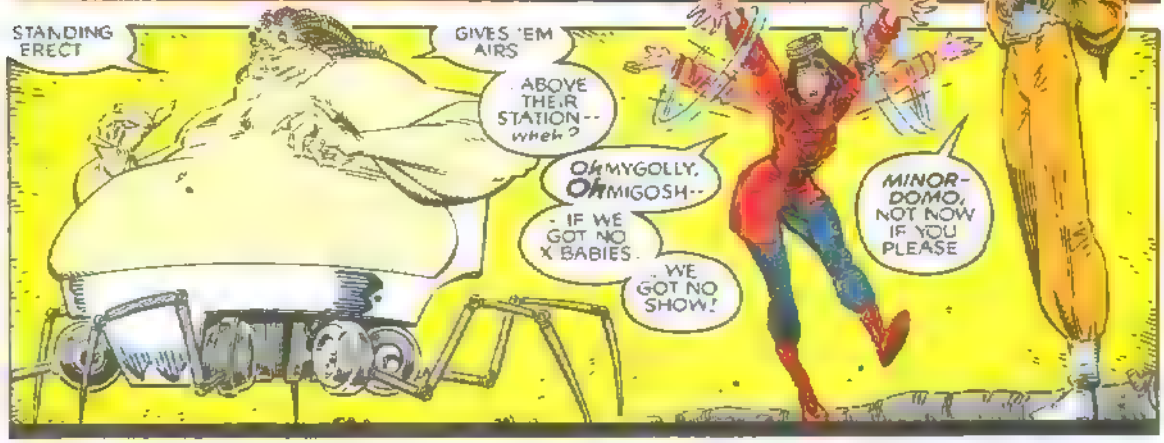
SHUDDER
INVASION
SQUADDIES--OUTTA HERE!
LEGENDS
CRASH
RUN AWAY, RUN AWAY!
WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?!

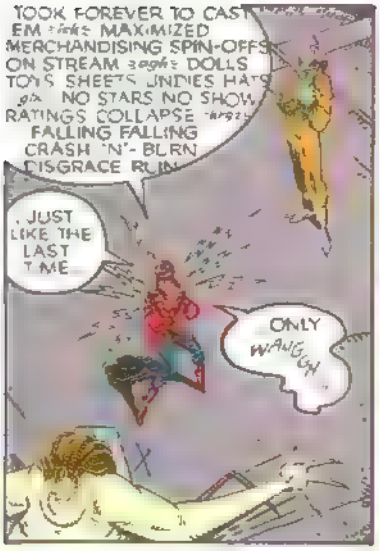

THEY'RE ON THEIR OWN!
SKARAKUMM!
THE HOUSE OF JACK 'NO STAN

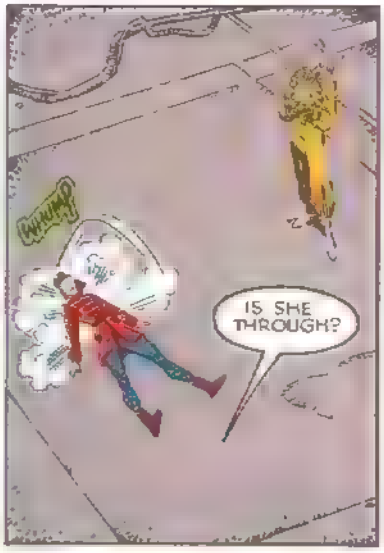
DOWN DOWN DOWN
AUGH!
IT'S A DISASTER
CONSIDER IT YOUR FRIEND "MR. GRAVITY," IN ACTION
IF HE MAKES SUCH A MESS, MAJOR-DOMO, HE'S NO FRIEND OF MINE!
SARCASM.
..UTTERLY WASTED

SO'S MY GLORIOUS MONUMENT TO MYSELF--
SMASHED ALL TO RUBBLY BITS!
THE AUDIENCE WILL EAT IT UP, MOJO, ALL YUMMYUMYUM JUST THE WAY YOU LOVE THEM TO.
LARGE-SCALE GRATUITOUS DESTRUCTION AND THE SEEMING OBLITERATION OF THEIR FAVORITE CHARACTERS ALWAYS MAKES FOR TOP RATINGS.
BUT ONLY IF THEY COME BACK FROM THE DEAD!

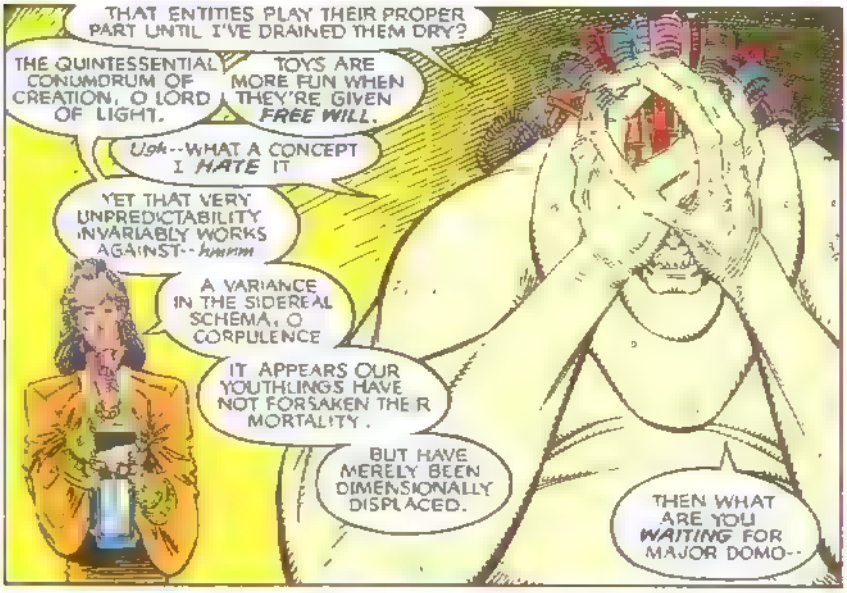

FIRST THE X-MEN GO AND GET THEMSELVES KILLED--
--NOW THEIR WRETCHED X-BABIES FOLLOW SUIT--
--CAN'T WE KEEP ANYONE ON THIS CONCEPT?!
IT IS A STRESSFUL OCCUPATION
I MAKE THEM STARS, AND SEE HOW THEY REPAY ME!
SUCH IS LIFE
COMES OF HAVING SPINES.


STANDING ERECT
GIVES 'EM AIRS
ABOVE THEIR STATION-- when?
OhMYGOLLY, OhMIGOSH--
IF WE GOT NO X BABIES
WE GOT NO SHOW!
MINOR-DOMO, NOT NOW IF YOU PLEASE


TOOK FOREVER TO CAST EM MAXIMIZED MERCHANDISING SPIN-OFFS ON STREAM DOLLS TOYS SHEETS UNDIES HATS NO STARS NO SHOW RATINGS COLLAPSE FALLING FALLING CRASH 'N' BURN DISGRACE RUIN
JUST LIKE THE LAST TIME...
ONLY WAUGH

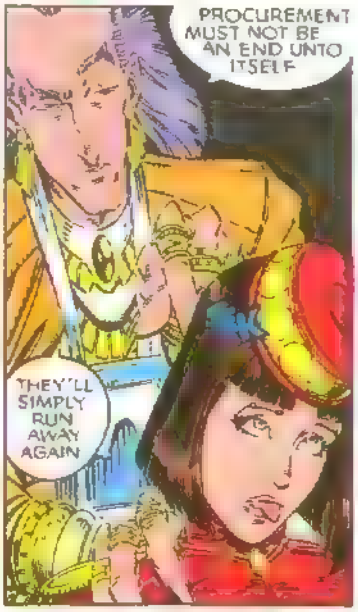

WHUMP
IS SHE THROUGH?

FOR THE MOMENT.
IS IT TOO MUCH TO ASK.


THAT ENTITIES PLAY THEIR PROPER PART UNTIL I'VE DRAINED THEM DRY?
THE QUINTESSENTIAL CONUMDRUM OF CREATION, O LORD OF LIGHT.
TOYS ARE MORE FUN WHEN THEY'RE GIVEN FREE WILL.
Ugh--WHAT A CONCEPT I HATE IT
YET THAT VERY UNPREDICTABILITY INVARIABLY WORKS AGAINST--
A VARIANCE IN THE SIDEREAL SCHEMA, O CORPULENCE
IT APPEARS OUR YOUTHLINGS HAVE NOT FORSAKEN THEIR MORTALITY.
BUT HAVE MERELY BEEN DIMENSIONALLY DISPLACED.
THEN WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR MAJOR DOMO--

--GET THEM BACK!

YOUR WISH AS EVER-- O FONT OF INSATIABLE DESIRE
HOWEVER AS PAST EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN


PROCUREMENT MUST NOT BE AN END UNTO ITSELF
THEY'LL SIMPLY RUN AWAY AGAIN

THE SOLUTION, THEN
IS OBVIOUS
WE MUST BIND THEM TO YOU
WITH UNBREAKABLE LIVESTIME CONTRACTS
THAT MEANS--!

WHO SUMMONS THE AGENT?

MOST IMPRESSIVE, MAJOR-DOMO-- AND ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, TOO

I ESPECIALLY LIKE THE HEAVY BREATHING. NICE TOUCH

A BASIC BRIEF, AGENT

OH MY GOSH OH MY GOLLY--!

RESTRAIN YOURSELF MINOR

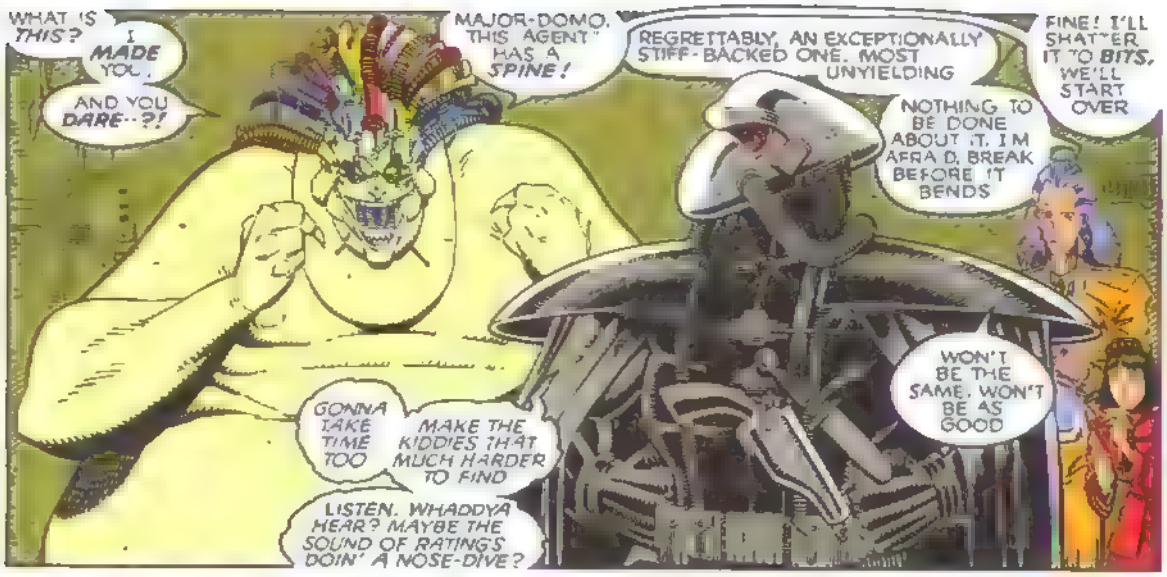
THE "X-BABIES" HAVE TAKEN IT INTO THEIR MISGUIDEDLY UNGRATEFUL HEADS TO ABANDON THEIR PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS

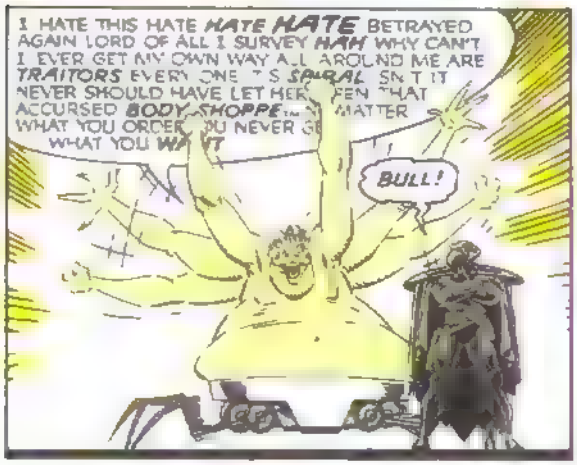
AND I WANT THEM BACK!

BEFORE I GO... LEAVE US DISCUSS TERMS.

TERMS?! I SAY YOU DO IT'S SETTLED

NOT BY A LONGSHOT, IT AIN'T. MY SERVICES DON'T COME CHEAP


WHAT IS THIS?
I MADE YOU.
AND YOU DARE--?!
MAJOR-DOMO, THIS AGENT HAS A SPINE!
REGRETTABLY, AN EXCEPTIONALLY STIFF-BACKED ONE. MOST UNYIELDING
FINE! I'LL SHATTER IT TO BITS. WE'LL START OVER
NOTHING TO BE DONE ABOUT IT. I'M AFRAID, BREAK BEFORE IT BENDS
WON'T BE THE SAME. WON'T BE AS GOOD
GONNA TAKE TIME TOO
MAKE THE KIDDIES THAT MUCH HARDER TO FIND
LISTEN. WHADDYA HEAR? MAYBE THE SOUND OF RATINGS DOIN' A NOSE-DIVE?

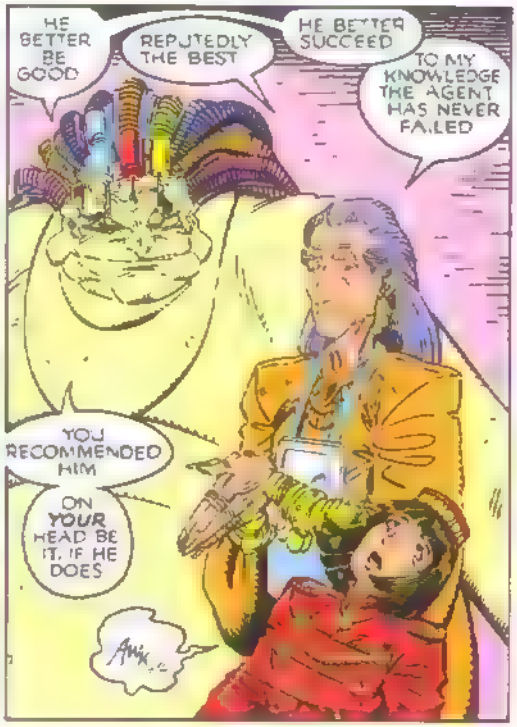

I HATE THIS HATE HATE HATE BETRAYED AGAIN LORD OF ALL I SURVEY HAH WHY CAN'T I EVER GET MY OWN WAY ALL AROUND ME ARE TRAITORS EVERY ONE IS SPIRAL SNIT IT NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET HER EVEN THAT ACCURSED BODY SHOPPE MATTER WHAT YOU ORDER YOU NEVER GET WHAT YOU WANT
BULL!

I'M EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED
B'SIDES HOW YOU GONNA KNOW WHAT YOU'GOT UNLESS YOU PAY FOR IT?

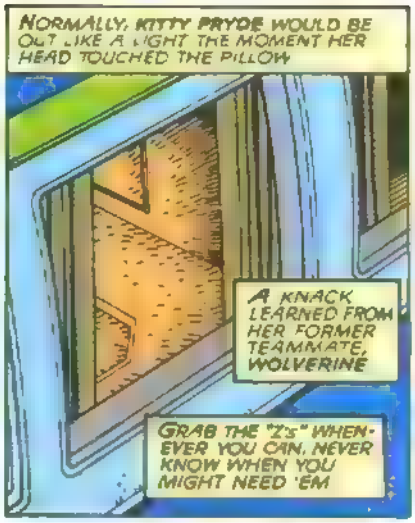
HOW MUCH?
YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR
GRRMMM

THEN MOJO I GUARANTEE THE RETURN OF THE X-BABIES
WHAT EVER IT TAKES!

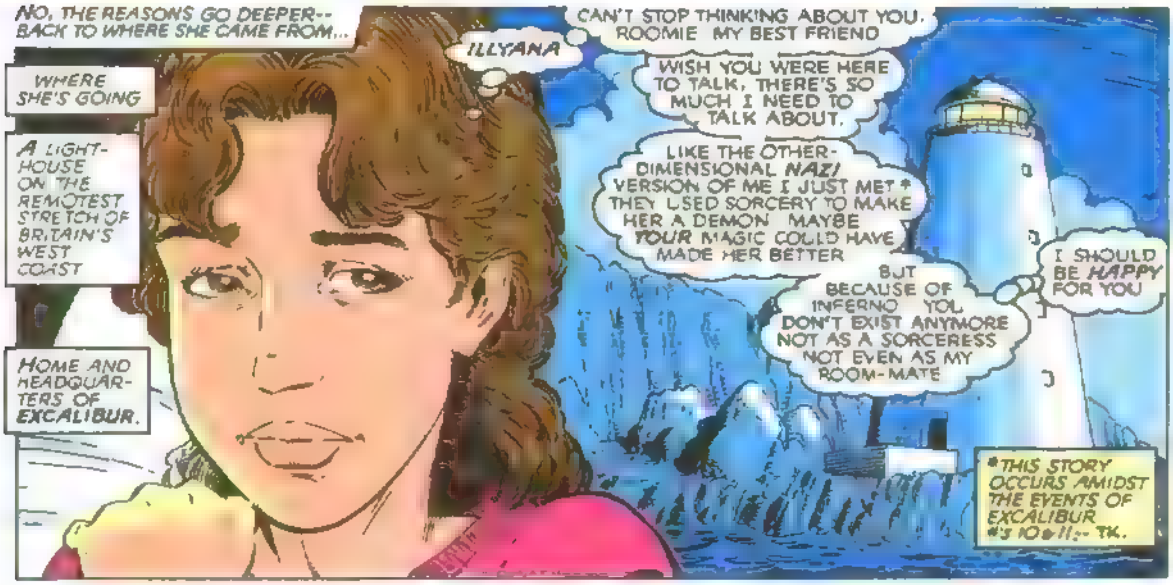
OR YOUR MONEY BACK!
POOF


HE BETTER BE GOOD
REPUTEDLY THE BEST
HE BETTER SUCCEED
TO MY KNOWLEDGE THE AGENT HAS NEVER FAILED
YOU RECOMMENDED HIM
ON YOUR HEAD BE IT, IF HE DOES
AWK...

BRITRAIL'S HIGHLAND FLYER--
DEPARTING EDINBURGH IN THE WEE HOURS, ARRIVING LONDON JUST PAST SUN-UP.
NOT A BAD WAY TO TRAVEL
ITS ONLY DRAWBACK BEING THAT THE NIGHT-TIME DARKNESS SHROUDS SOME OF THE LOVELIEST COUNTRY IN THE REALM.


NORMALLY, KITTY PRYDE WOULD BE OUT LIKE A LIGHT THE MOMENT HER HEAD TOUCHED THE PILLOW
A KNACK LEARNED FROM HER FORMER TEAMMATE, WOLVERINE
GRAB THE "Z'S" WHENEVER YOU CAN. NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT NEED 'EM

ONLY TONIGHT, SHE FINDS SHE CAN'T
MAYBE IT'S THE BOOK
SHE LOVES ANNE RICE, BUT RIDING ALONE ACROSS THE WILDS OF SCOTLAND MIGHT NOT BE THE BEST TIME TO READ ABOUT MUMMIES AND VAMPIRES
NO, NOT THE BOOK
NOT EVEN THE JAZZ OF THE CONCERT, THOUGH IT WAS THE BEST SHE'D EVER SEEN
Heh! IF THAT'S THE CASE, BETTER TRADE IN HER "SHADOWCAT" IDENTITY FOR "SCARDEYCAT."
SHE'D NEVER DANCED SO WELL, WITH SUCH JOYOUS ABANDON -- COME MORNING, SHE'D HAVE THE BRUISES TO PROVE IT, TOO, BUT SHE DIDN'T CARE


NO, THE REASON'S GO DEEPER-- BACK TO WHERE SHE CAME FROM...
WHERE SHE'S GOING
A LIGHT-HOUSE ON THE REMOTEST STRETCH OF BRITAIN'S WEST COAST
HOME AND HEADQUARTERS OF EXCALIBUR.
ILLYANA
CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT YOU, ROOMIE MY BEST FRIEND
WISH YOU WERE HERE TO TALK, THERE'S SO MUCH I NEED TO TALK ABOUT.
LIKE THE OTHER-DIMENSIONAL NAZI VERSION OF ME I JUST MET* THEY USED SORCERY TO MAKE HER A DEMON MAYBE YOUR MAGIC COULD HAVE MADE HER BETTER
BUT BECAUSE OF INFERNO YOU DON'T EXIST ANYMORE NOT AS A SORCERESS NOT EVEN AS MY ROOM-MATE
I SHOULD BE HAPPY FOR YOU
*THIS STORY OCCURS AMIDST THE EVENTS OF EXCALIBUR #'S 10&11:-- TK.

"BUT I MISS YOU TOO MUCH
"THE WORST OF IT IS, HAVING NOBODY TO TALK ABOUT HOW I FEEL. MY TEAM-MATES IN *EXCALIBUR* THEY'RE PALS-- BUT IT ISN'T THE SAME."
PRETTY PUZZLE *eh*, KIDDO?
THAT BAD, KITTY?
Grump!
Grump grump!

HAVE YOU TRIED..?
YUP
PERHAPS THEN..?
THAT, TOO
ALTERNATIVELY?
FIRST THING
NO JOY, ACROSS THE FLAMIN' BOARD!

WE KNOW THIS LITTLE ROBOT SOMEHOW CREATES PAN DIMENSIONAL WARP GATES, ***PROFESSOR STUART*** ALMOST GOT YANKED THROUGH ONE
HOW- *sigh*- DO I GET ***ALISTAIRE*** TO NOTICE ME? WHAT'LL I DO IF HE DOES?!
FAT CHANCE HE ONLY HAS EYES FOR ***RACHEL***. CAN'T FAULT HIS TASTE. THE UNREGENERATE ***TOAD!***
BUT SINCE THEN, THE ROBOT'S BEEN JUST AS YOU SEE HIM NOW..

TOTALLY ***INERT!***
HE CAN'T--OR WON'T--COMMUNICATE. THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY WAY OF CRACKING HIS CASING TO GET AT HIS INTERNAL CIRCUITRY. RAY CAN'T EVEN SCAN HIS MIND!
I'M A ***TELEPATH***, KITTY. I DON'T DO ROBOTS
FINE. GREAT. TERRIFIC!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.

THE HARDER I TRY TO PUZZLE OUT THIS DARN ***WIDGET***...
THE ***CRAZIER*** I GET!
I CAN'T ***TAKE*** IT ANYMORE!!
Coo?
?!

HULLO, KITTY
THINGS GOING WELL IN YOUR LAB?
GRAZLRAZIT!
QUITE EXTRAORDINARY. THE WAY YOUR *PHASING* POWER ALLOWS YOU TO LITERALLY "*WALK*" ON AIR AS WELL AS THROUGH WALLS
FRAMGLESNAG!
BAD DAY AT THE OFFICE?
VERY BAD
SHNEEZLIAGRHIC!
HUMPH!
SOMETHING I SAID?
I'VE SEEN THIS MOOD BEFORE, BRIAN

I SHOULDN'T HAVE SNARLED AT *CAPTAIN BRITAIN* AND *NIGHTCRAWLER*
WATCH OUT, WORLD. *CRABBY KITTY'S* ON THE WARPATH!
AND WHY NOT?
IS IT TOO MUCH TO WANT MY OWN ROOM?!

OR MY OLD FRIENDS BACK?!
OR MY OLD LIFE?!
I THOUGHT I'D COME TO TERMS WITH THE *X-MEN* BEING DEAD.
KITTY - DID YOU HEAR THE *NEWS*?
H'LO, MEGGAN

IT'S THE MOST *WONDERFUL* THING, THERE'S TO BE A *ROYAL WEDDING* THIS WEEKEND ON THE *TELLY*--
--NOT *OUR* ROYALS, OF COURSE, THEY'RE PRETTY MUCH ALL SPOKEN FOR, BUT IT'S SURE TO BE A SPLENDID TREAT!
GLAD TO HEAR IT
KITTY-- IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

IT'S NO BIG DEAL-- WHY'S EVERYONE DETERMINED TO MAKE A FEDERAL CASE OUT OF IT?

I'M FEELING A LITTLE BRAIN-FRIED, IS ALL. COOPED UP HERE OVER A WEEK. BUTTING MY HEAD AGAINST THE STONEWALL OF THAT WIDGET DOWNSTAIRS

I WANT A BREAK!

MY *FAVORITE* BAND'S PLAYING IN EDINBURGH. IT'S THE LAST SHOW OF THEIR TOUR AND I'VE MISSED EVERY OTHER

WELL, FOLKS, I PROMISE YOU-- NOT THIS ONE!

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, KATHERINE-- CONSIDERING YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO EXCALIBUR AND THE CURRENT SITUATION-- D'YOU THINK IT WISE TO GO OFF GALLIVANTING.. ?

WITH ALL *DUE* RESPECT, CAPTAIN BRITAIN..

WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY *NO* OBJECTION TO YOUR HAVING THE WILDEST OF WEEKENDS. *KATZCHEN*

(PROVIDED, OF COURSE YOU BEHAVE)

SERIOUSLY FUZZY-ELF ?

DANCE UP A STORM.

NIGHT-CRAWLER !

EXCALIBUR MIGHT BE CALLED ON AT ANY TIME!

I'M SURE, BRIAN. THAT BETWEEN YOU, ME, MEGGAN AND PHOENIX .

WE'LL FIND A WAY TO MANAGE.

BESIDES, SHE *HAS* BEEN WORKING HARD.

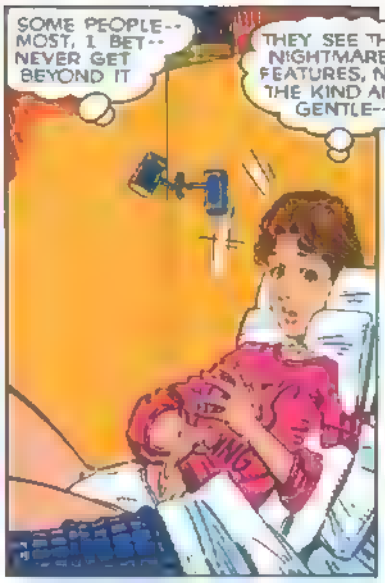
TRUST ME, CAP. *SHADOWCAT* IS A RESPONSIBLE GIRL. BY TREATING HER AS SUCH, RESPECTING HER NEEDS AND DESIRES

...SHE'LL BE MORE AWARE AND SOLICITOUS OF THE TEAM'S, THAT, I SUSPECT IS BEST FOR ALL CONCERNED

YOU SILVER-TONGUED, FORK-TAILED *DEVIL*, NIGHT-CRAWLER--

--BLESS YOU!

FUNNY-- FIRST TIME WE MET, HE SCARED THE BEANS OUT OF ME
ALL HIS LIFE, KURT'S HAD TO FACE THAT REACTION


SOME PEOPLE-- MOST, I BET-- NEVER GET BEYOND IT
THEY SEE THE NIGHTMARE FEATURES, NOT THE KIND AND GENTLE--

--BEEP!--

Oh GOSH oh GOLLY oh GOSH oh GOLLY oh GOSH

STUPID GIRL!
LUCKY NOBODY SAW YOU BLOW YOUR EXCALIBUR COVER SKY HIGH
CAN'T FORGET- NEVER FORGET-- YOUR NATURAL STATE IS TO BE INTANGIBLE
YOU'RE ONLY SOLID, SHADOWCAT, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT
RELAX YOUR CONCENTRATION, EVEN A LITTLE..
YOU'RE ESSENTIALLY A LIVING GHOST

COUNT MY BLESSINGS.
THE X-MEN ARE REAL GHOSTS
DON'T THINK ABOUT THAT
FOCUS ON THE GOOD THINGS, THAT'S WHY YOU PULLED THIS ROAD TRIP
THEY PLAYED A TWO NIGHT GIG, AND EACH SET WAS BETTER THAN THE LAST
CAT'S

"I FIRST HEARD 'EM AT *WINDYCON*, A SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION HELD NEAR MY HOME IN DEERFIELD. BAND WAS BASED IN MINNEAPOLIS, AND I'D HOOF IT OVER TO HEAR 'EM PLAY. EVERY CHANCE I GOT, EVEN AFTER I JOINED THE X-MEN

MY KIND'A MUSIC-- THEY START PLAYING. MY FEET START JUMPING MAKES ME WANT TO DANCE 'TIL I DROP, *LOVING* EVERY MINUTE OF IT

"ICING ON THE CAKE IS THAT THE LEAD SINGER, [redacted]...

HAPPENS TO BE ONE OF MY FAVORITE WRITERS."

"THE CLOSING SET SATURDAY NIGHT WAS EVERYTHING YOU COULD WISH FOR

"MAGIC TIME, FOR BAND AND AUDIENCE BOTH."

EMMA, THAT WAS GREAT, YOU WERE ALL *GREAT!*

LIKED US *huh?*

BUT WHERE'S LOJO?

SICK, POOR DEAR THAT'S WHY *FALCON* FILLED IN FOR HER

ACTUALLY, CONSIDERING HOW WE PLAY WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT, KITTY

.. MAYBE WE SHOULD DRAG YOU ALONG WITH US PERMA-NENTLY?

YOU *MEAN* IT?!

CAP. 3-99 WOULD JUST DIE!

I'D *LOVE* TO- BUT I *CAN'T.*

IN TRUTH, WE SORT'A FIGURED

THO' IT NEVER HURTS TO KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN

ANYHOW, HERE'S A TOKEN TO SHOW

.. YOU'RE AS SPECIAL TO US, KIT, AS WE ARE TO YOU

Oh WOW!

Oh, WOW!

YOU GUYS ARE PRINCES!

ONLY FALCON, AND HE'S IN EXILE

BE SEEING YOU KITTY!

REAL SOON I HOPE! BYE!!

"LITTLE MS HAPPY FEET" ALL THE WAY TO WAVERLY STATION

I MUST'VE LOOKED LIKE SUCH A *LOON!*

WISH THE X-MEN HAD BEEN THERE TO SHARE THE MOMENT

IT'S NOT THE R BEING GONE THAT I CAN DEAL WITH

IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT IN OTHER DIMENSIONS

THEY MAY STILL EXIST--

CRASH!

IS THIS THE RIGHT ONE?

BETTER BE!

GET *FLASHY*, LIGHTENGALE, SO WE CAN MAKE SURE

--WHUA THE HEY?!

GOOD EVENING, KITTY.

OUR APOLOGIES FOR THIS RUDE INTRUSION--!

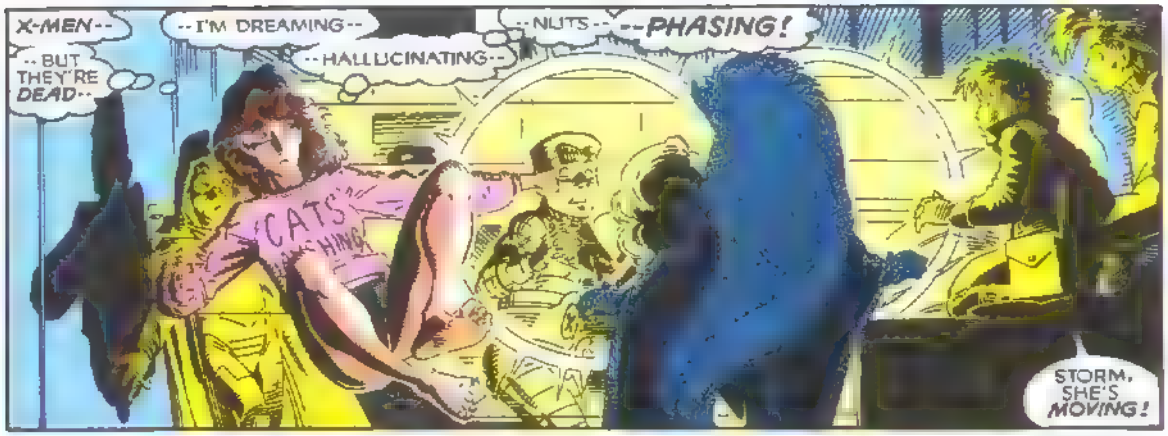
GEEZ SHE'S BIG

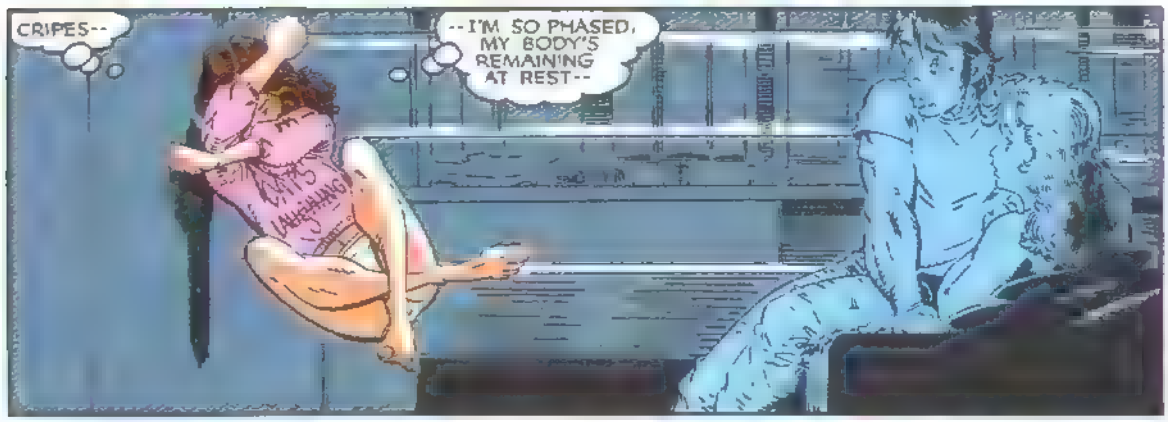
SEEN BIGGER AN' BETTER

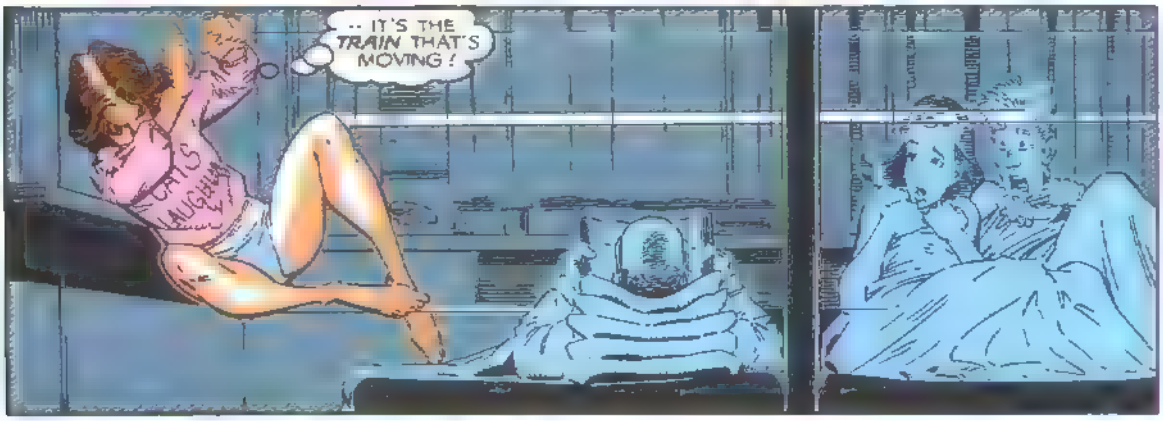
SO-- YOU GONNA HELP US, OR WHAT?

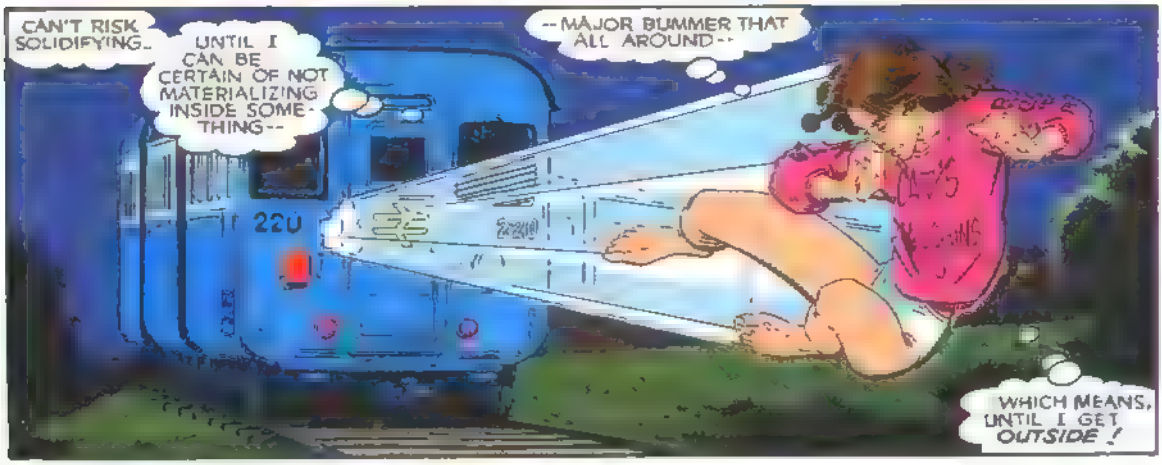
?!?

AAAAY

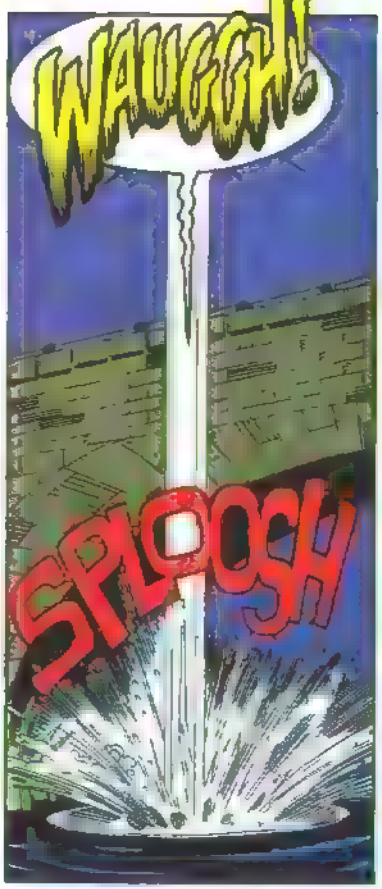

X-MEN--
--BUT THEY'RE DEAD--
--I'M DREAMING--
--HALLUCINATING--
--NUTS--
--PHASING!
CATS
STORM, SHE'S MOVING!

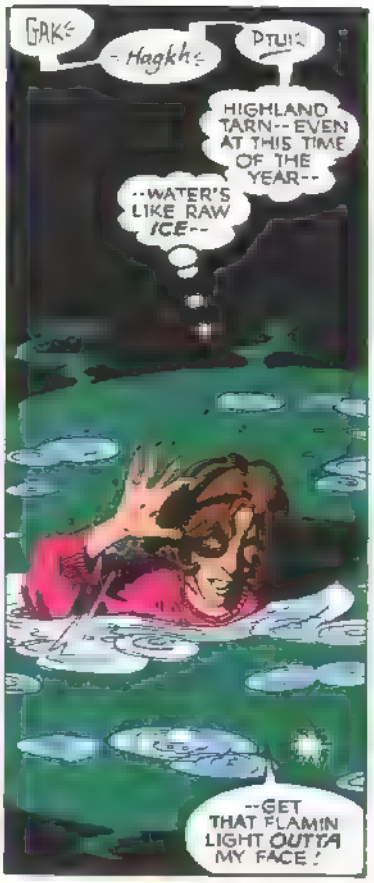

CRIPES--
--I'M SO PHASED, MY BODY'S REMAINING AT REST--
CATS

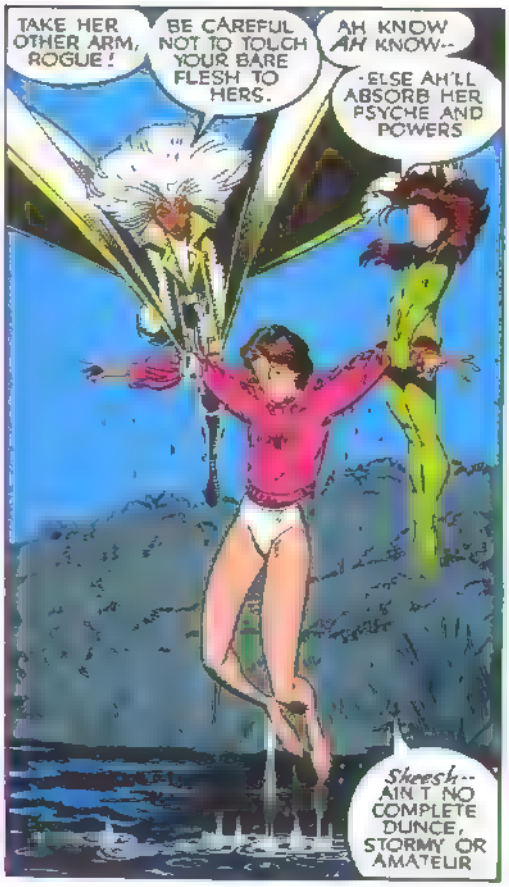

--IT'S THE TRAIN THAT'S MOVING!
CATS


CAN'T RISK SOLIDIFYING..
UNTIL I CAN BE CERTAIN OF NOT MATERIALIZING INSIDE SOMETHING--
--MAJOR BUMMER THAT ALL AROUND--
22U
WHICH MEANS, UNTIL I GET OUTSIDE!

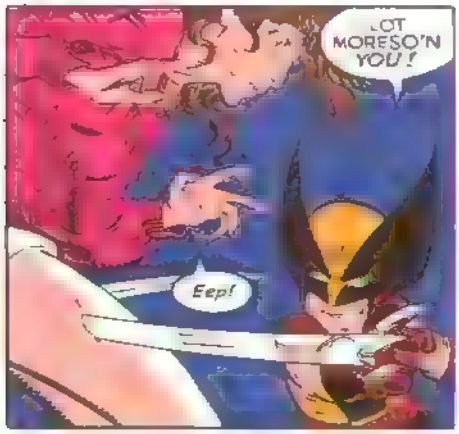
THAT'S BETTER--
-whoops--

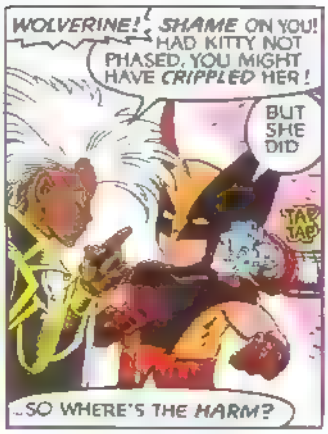

WAUGGH!
SPLOOSH


GAK!
-Hagkh!
PTUI!
HIGHLAND TARN--EVEN AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR--
--WATER'S LIKE RAW ICE--
--GET THAT FLAMIN LIGHT OUTTA MY FACE!


TAKE HER OTHER ARM, ROGUE!
BE CAREFUL NOT TO TOUCH YOUR BARE FLESH TO HERS.
AH KNOW AH KNOW--
-ELSE AH'LL ABSORB HER PSYCHE AND POWERS
Sheesh-- AIN'T NO COMPLETE DUNCE, STORMY OR AMATEUR

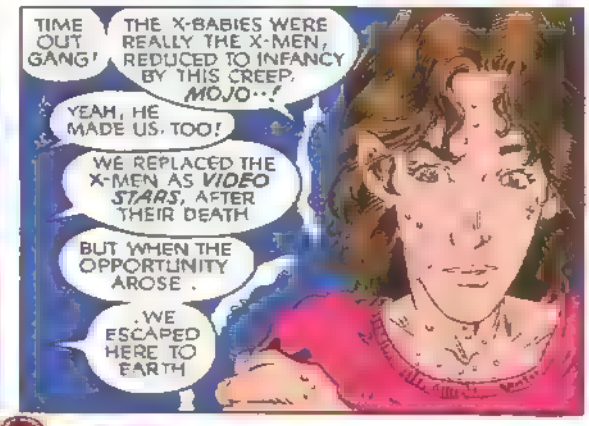
YOU--
YOU--
--YOU'RE REAL!
'COURSE WE'RE REAL, YA STOOPID SKIRT--

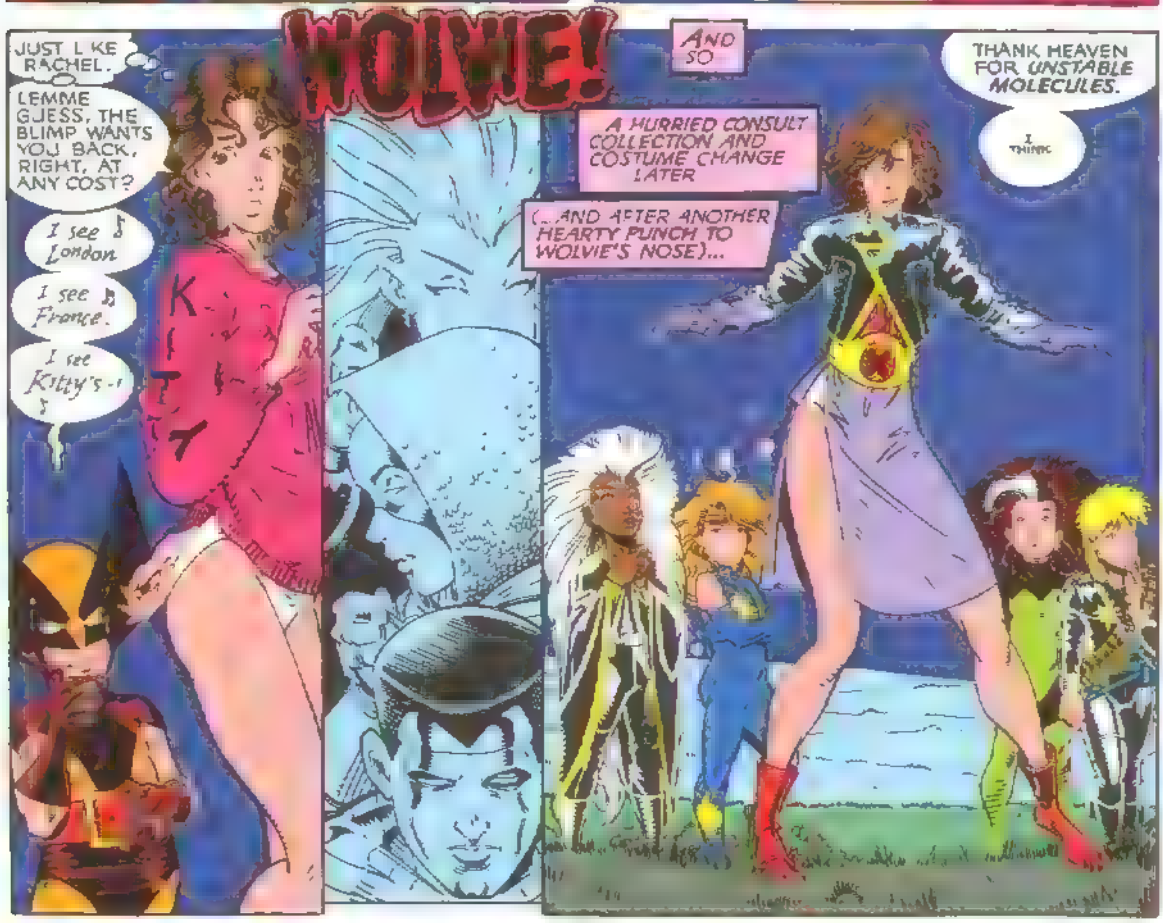

..OT MORESO'N YOU!
Eep!


WOLVERINE! SHAME ON YOU! HAD KITTY NOT PHASED, YOU MIGHT HAVE CRIPPLED HER!
BUT SHE DID
TAP TAP
..SO WHERE'S THE HARM?

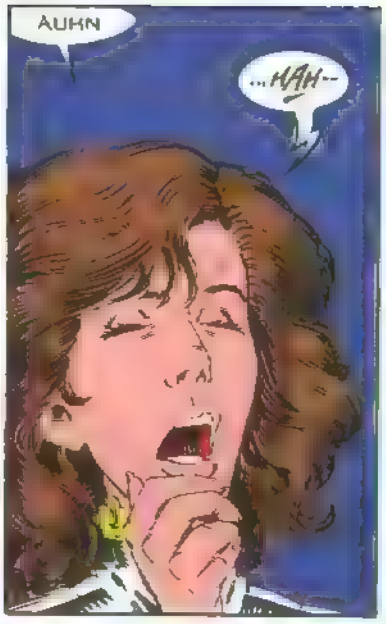
TOVARISCH-
..YOU WILL NOT DO SUCH A THING AGAIN
UNDER-STAND?
POK!

BY DOSE.
IDZ BLEEDINK
SERVES YOU RIGHT AND YOUR HEALING FACTOR WILL MAKE IT BETTER.
ALMOST BEFORE YOU KNOW IT
KITTY, WE ARE THE X-BABIES!


TIME OUT GANG!
THE X-BABIES WERE REALLY THE X-MEN, REDUCED TO INFANCY BY THIS CREEP, MOJO..!
YEAH, HE MADE US, TOO!
WE REPLACED THE X-MEN AS VIDEO STARS, AFTER THEIR DEATH
BUT WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY AROSE.
..WE ESCAPED HERE TO EARTH


WOLVIE!
JUST LIKE RACHEL.
LEMME GUESS, THE BLIMP WANTS YOU BACK, RIGHT, AT ANY COST?
I see London
I see France.
I see Kitty's..!
AND SO...
A HURRIED CONSULT COLLECTION AND COSTUME CHANGE LATER
(...AND AFTER ANOTHER HEARTY PUNCH TO WOLVIE'S NOSE)...
THANK HEAVEN FOR UNSTABLE MOLECULES.
I THINK

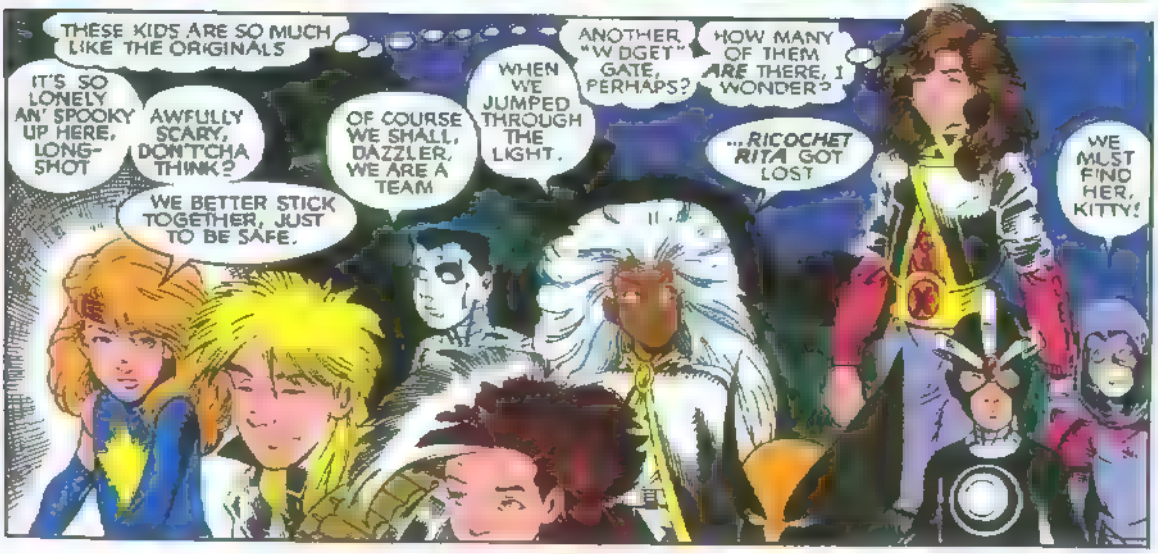
IT'S A LITTLE SNUG HERE AND THERE..
...BUT IT SURE BEATS STROLLING ABOUT IN THE SOAKING WET ALTOGETH-- uhn


AUHN
...HAH--

SCHOO!

SOME SNEEZE
BETTER WATCH THAT
I SNEEZE TOO HARD, I MAY SCATTER MY COMPONENT MOLECULES...
BEYOND MY ABILITY TO PULL EM BACK TOGETHER.

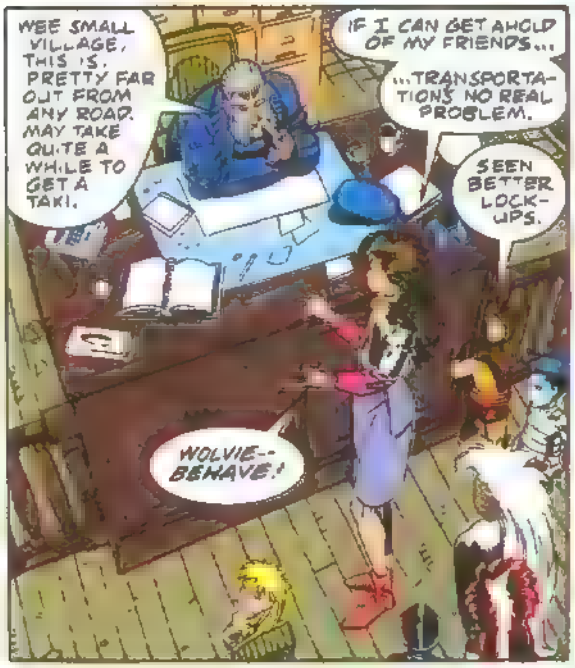
NASTY
HOW DARE HE?!
IS NOTHING SACRED TO THAT SUPARATING SACK OF SUET?
WOULDN'T MIND A CHANCE TO DISCORPORATE MOJO, THE BLOAT
DUMB QUESTION GIVEN HIS TRACK RECORD. OF COURSE NOT.
IF A THING CAN BE EXPLOITED, HE WILL. TO THE PROVERBIAL MAX!
PROFIT UBER ALLES. THAT'S HIS MOTTO

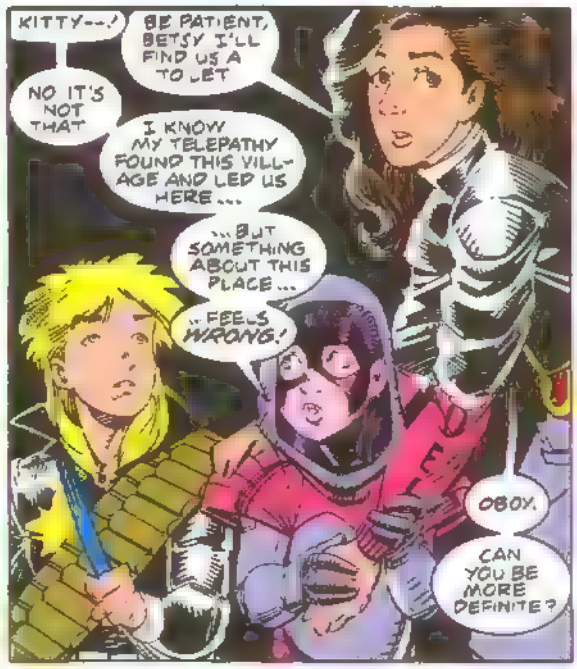

THESE KIDS ARE SO MUCH LIKE THE ORIGINALS
IT'S SO LONELY AN' SPOOKY UP HERE, LONG-SHOT
AWFULLY SCARY, DON'TCHA THINK?
WE BETTER STICK TOGETHER, JUST TO BE SAFE.
OF COURSE WE SHALL, DAZZLER. WE ARE A TEAM
WHEN WE JUMPED THROUGH THE LIGHT.
ANOTHER "WIDGET" GATE, PERHAPS?
HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE, I WONDER?
...RICOCHET RITA GOT LOST
WE MUST FIND HER, KITTY!

BEST MOVE THEN, FOR ALL CONCERNED, S TO RING N EXCALIBUR.
WHOOZAT?
YOU'LL SEE, WOLVIE.
BEST WAY TO DO THAT, I FIGURE, S THROUGH THE LOCAL CONSTA-BULARY

THE COPS, ARE YOU NUTS?!
HEY, SPORT, T'S BETTER THAN 300 MILES TO WHERE WE WANT TO GO...
...AND THANKS TO YOU LOT, I GOT NO MONEY OR ID, AND YOUR FLIERS CAN'T CARRY US ALL

"YOU'D MAYBE RATHER WALK?"
SO--Y' YOUNG LADS AN' LASS ES, OFF ON A PAGEANT WERE Y', AN' LOST YU R WAY?
COSTUME PARTY ACTUALLY, CONSTABLE.
AN' VERY PRETTY COSTUMES THEY ARE, TOO. 'SPECIALLY YON LAD, LOOKS MADE O' METAL.
SURE IS AMAZING WHAT THEY CAN DO THESE DAYS WITH MAKE-UP.
WUHLL, THA'S WHUT WE POLICE ARE HERE FOR, T' HELP THEM WHUT'S IN NEED.
'COURSE, DON'T RIGHTLY KNOW HOW MUCH THAT'LL BE, THIS TIME O' NIGHT.


WEE SMALL VILLAGE, THIS 'S PRETTY FAR OUT FROM ANY ROAD. MAY TAKE QU·TE A WHILE TO GET A TAXI.
IF I CAN GET AHOLD OF MY FRIENDS...
...TRANSPORTATIONS NO REAL PROBLEM.
SEEN BETTER LOCK-UPS.
WOLVIE--BEHAVE!


KITTY--!
BE PATIENT, BETSY I'LL FIND US A TO LET
NO IT'S NOT THAT
I KNOW MY TELEPATHY FOUND THIS VILLAGE AND LED US HERE...
...BUT SOMETHING ABOUT THIS PLACE...
..FEELS WRONG!
OBOY.
CAN YOU BE MORE DEFINITE?

OCH, Y'RE A RAMBLY BUNCH O' WEE BRAINS... ... AN' THA'S A FACK

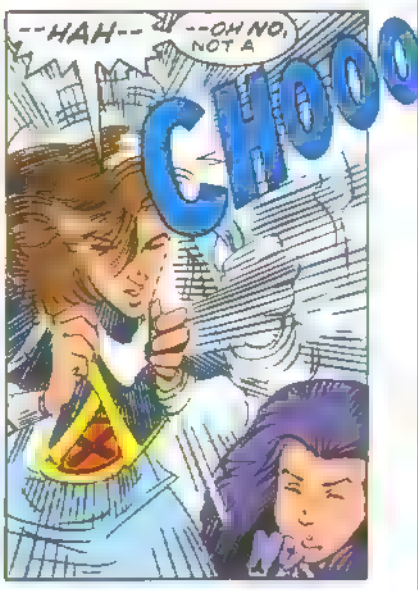
WOULD Y' BE LIKIN' SOME MUGS O' HOT COCOA.

SOUNDS GREAT, CONSTABLE, THANKS VERY MUCH.

HE LIKES KIDS, THAT'S A BREAK AND A HALF.

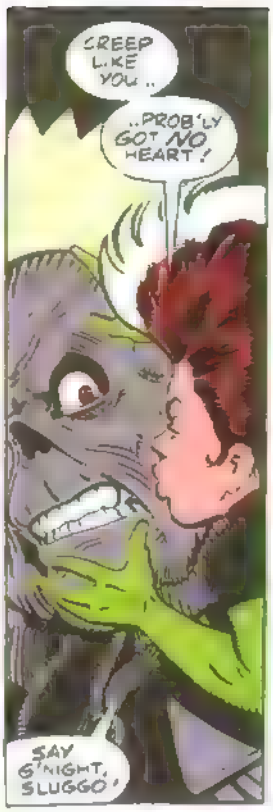
WAY THIS LOT'S FIDGETING--WORSE'N A PACK OF RACCOONS FOR GETTING INTO THINGS--

--ANYONE ELSE'D HAVE TOSSED US IN THE SLAMMER BY NOW...

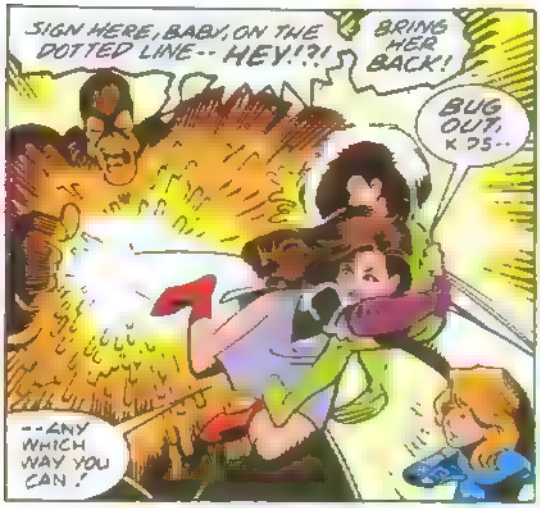


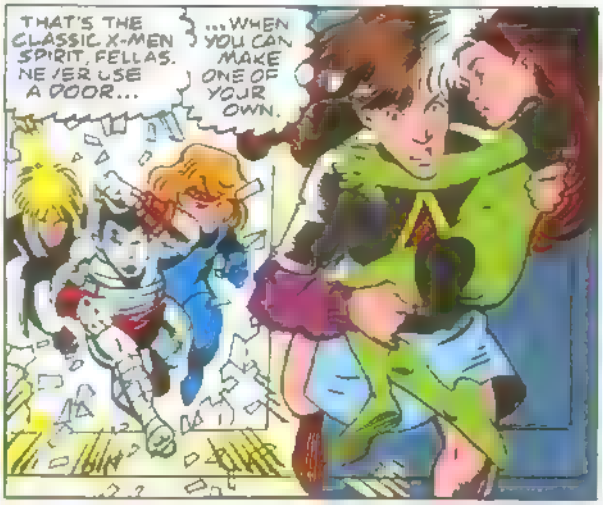
COLD'S GETTING WORSE.
TAKING A REAL EFFORT TO COHERE MYSELF.
BLEAGHH!
BEG YUR PARDON, LASSIE...
..BUT I'LL NEED YUR SIGNATURE--
--FOR THE MASTER FILES, MERELY A FORMALITY, THE RULES, Y'SEE.
OH--
--ALL RIGHT
IF YOU'RE NOT WELL, KITTY...
...PERHAPS I CAN TRY ON MY OWN?
GOT ONE!
THE FIRST OF MANY!
NOW THAT YOU'VE SIGNED A CONTRACT, LITTLE PSYLOCKE--
--YOUR SOUL BELONGS TO MOJO--
--AND YOUR POWERS, TO ME!
SHE'S TURNIN' TO SMOKE!
THAT VILLAIN IS ABSORBING HER!!

WHO YOU CALLIN' A "VILLAIN?"
YOU SHOULD REALLY TRUST ME, KIDDIES.
I'M THE AGENT!
I GOT 'CHER BEST INTERESTS AT HEART.
KRAKAM
ZARK


CREEP LIKE YOU..
..PROB'LY GOT NO HEART!
SAY G'NIGHT, SLUGGO!

AIN'T MY BED-TIME, ROGUE--BUT YOURS!
I'M IMMUNE TO YOUR MUTANT POWER.
CAN YOU SAY THE SAME...
GLEEP!
...ABOUT MY NEW-WON TELEPATHY?


SIGN HERE, BABY, ON THE DOTTED LINE--HEY!?!
BRING HER BACK!
BUG OUT, KIDS--
--ANY WHICH WAY YOU CAN!


THAT'S THE CLASSIC X-MEN SPIRIT, FELLAS. NEVER USE A DOOR...
...WHEN YOU CAN MAKE ONE OF YOUR OWN.

I BLASTED HIM--
--BUT MY PLASMA BOLT BOUNCED RIGHT OFF!
HE IS WEARING BODY ARMOR!
WHAT A CHEATER!
NO IDEA OF THIS AGENT'S CAPABILITIES
GOTTA PUT SOME SERIOUS DISTANCE BETWEEN US!
NO CHOICE--
--BUT TO TAKE HIS CAR!

'ISN'T THIS STEALING?
AN'LL RIGHT!
MY KIND OF CAPER!
WHA' CHU' DOIN', KITTY?
TRYIN' TO START THE FLAMIN' ENGINE, WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE?!
ARE THESE THE IGNITION WIRES?
WHICH DO I PULL, HOW DO I MAKE THIS WORK--
--IT ALWAYS LOOKS SO SIMPLE ON TV!
MAKE ROOM!
SHOULD I SIT IN THE FRONT, PLEASE, OR THE BACK?

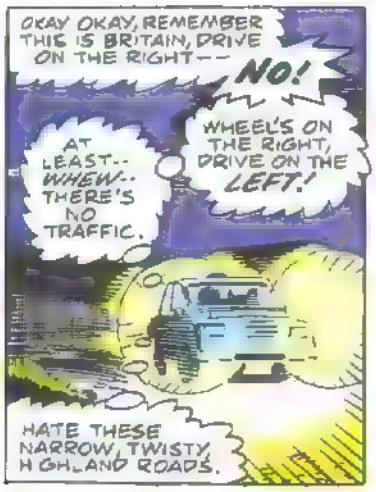
HUH?!
THE KEYS?!!

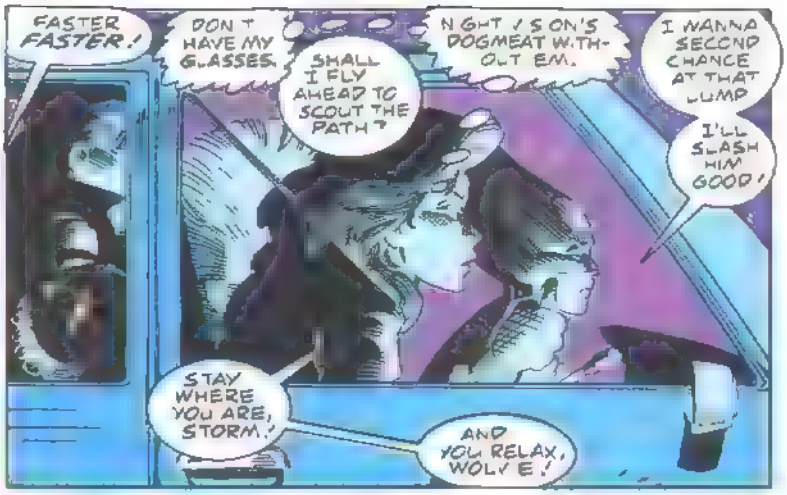
SWIPED 'EM FROM THE DESK.
DID GOOD, EH?
WHERE WOULD YOU BE W'THOUT ME?
Grrr!

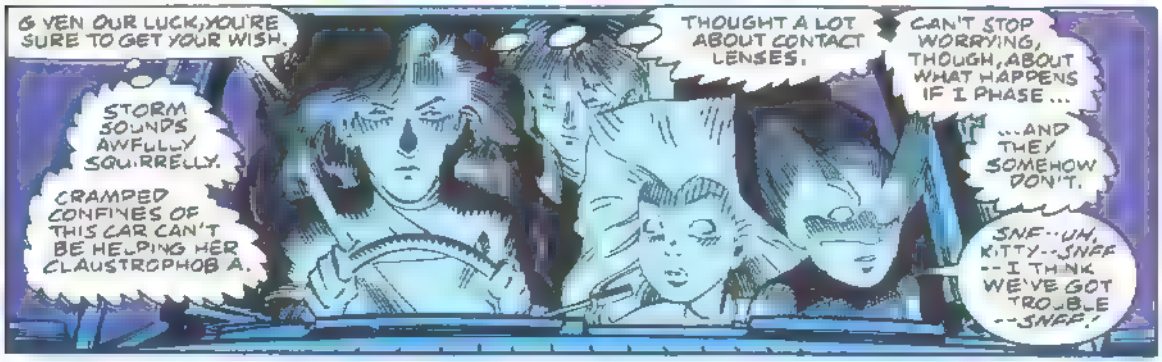
OHO-- A CHASE!
ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM, BABIES--

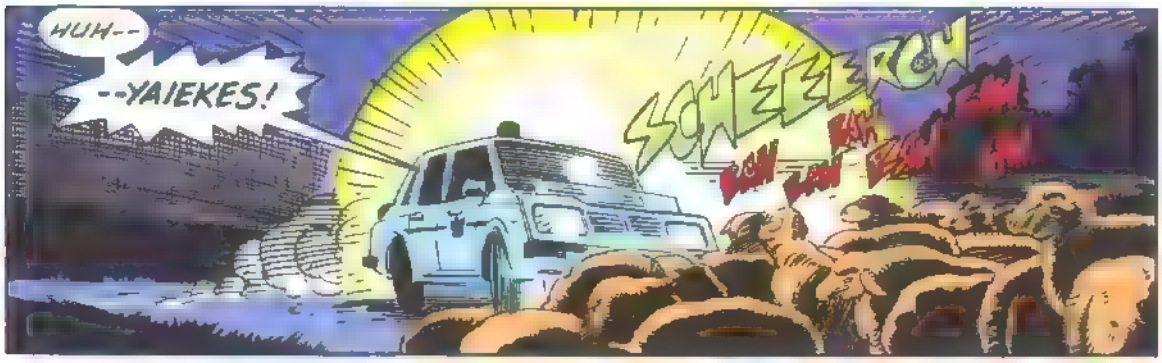
--WHILE IT LASTS!
I MEAN TO GET YOU--
--AND YOUR BABY-SITTER IN THE BARGAIN!

WOOMF
THAT'LL REALLY MAKE MOJO'S DAY!
AND MY FORTUNE!

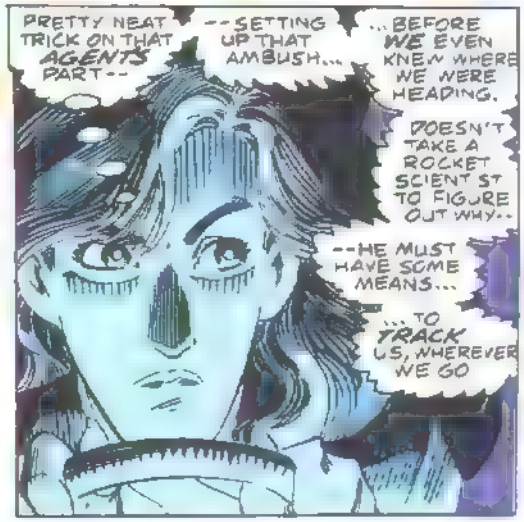

OKAY OKAY, REMEMBER THIS IS BRITAIN, DRIVE ON THE RIGHT--
NO!
WHEEL'S ON THE RIGHT, DRIVE ON THE LEFT!
AT LEAST-- WHEW-- THERE'S NO TRAFFIC.
HATE THESE NARROW, TWISTY, HIGHLAND ROADS.

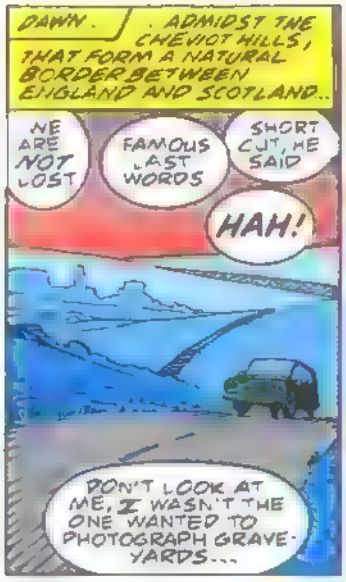

FASTER FASTER!
DON'T HAVE MY GLASSES.
SHALL I FLY AHEAD TO SCOUT THE PATH?
NIGHT'S ON'S DOGMEAT WITHOUT EM.
I WANNA SECOND CHANCE AT THAT LUMP
I'LL SLASH HIM GOOD!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, STORM!
AND YOU RELAX, WOLVE!

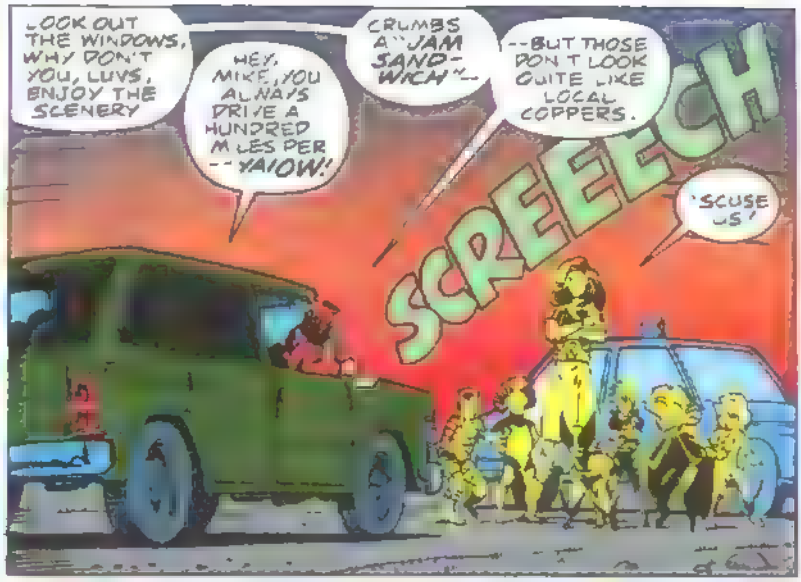

GIVEN OUR LUCK, YOU'RE SURE TO GET YOUR WISH.
STORM SOUNDS AWFULLY SQUIRRELLY.
CRAMPED CONFINES OF THIS CAR CAN'T BE HELPING HER CLAUSTROPHOBIA.
THOUGHT A LOT ABOUT CONTACT LENSES.
CAN'T STOP WORRYING, THOUGH, ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS IF I PHASE...
...AND THEY SOMEHOW DON'T.
SNF--UH, KITTY--SNFF --I THINK WE'VE GOT TROUBLE --SNFF!

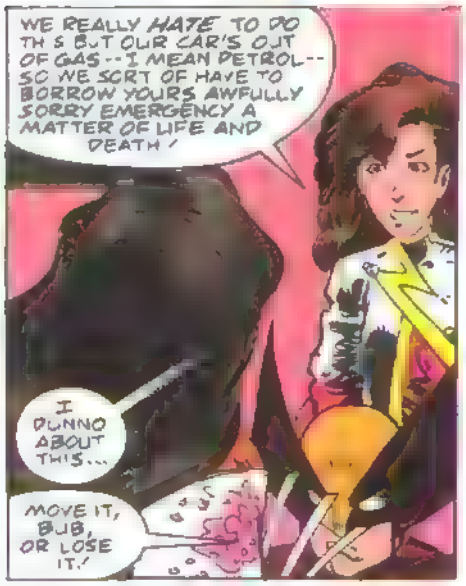

HUH--
--YAIEKES!
SCHEEEERCH
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

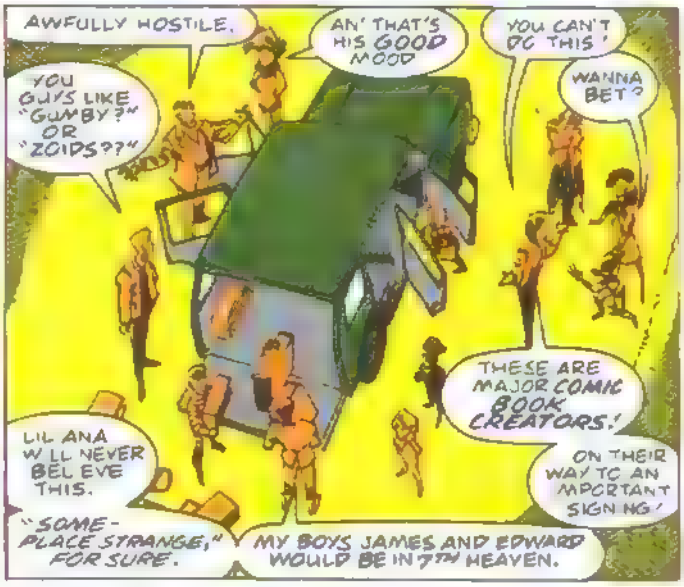
MOVE IT, YOU DUMB SHEEP!
GET OUT OF THE ROAD!
HONK
WEE OOO
WEE OOO
SHEATH THOSE CLAWS--
--YOU BLOOD-THIRSTY BRUTE!
LEMME AT THEM WALKIN' SHISH-KEBABS, I'LL CLEAR A PATH!
BAM
BAM
BAM
KRAK


PRETTY NEAT TRICK ON THAT AGENTS PART--
--SETTING UP THAT AMBUSH...
...BEFORE WE EVEN KNEW WHERE WE WERE HEADING.
DOESN'T TAKE A ROCKET SCIENTIST TO FIGURE OUT WHY--
--HE MUST HAVE SOME MEANS...
...TO TRACK US, WHEREVER WE GO


DAWN. . ADMIDST THE CHEVIOT HILLS, THAT FORM A NATURAL BORDER BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND..
WE ARE NOT LOST
FAMOUS LAST WORDS
SHORT CUT, HE SAID
HAH!
DON'T LOOK AT ME, I WASN'T THE ONE WANTED TO PHOTOGRAPH GRAVE-YARDS...


LOOK OUT THE WINDOWS, WHY DON'T YOU, LUVS, ENJOY THE SCENERY
HEY, MIKE, YOU ALWAYS DRIVE A HUNDRED MILES PER -- YAIOW!
CRUMBS A "JAM SAND-WICH"--
--BUT THOSE DON'T LOOK QUITE LIKE LOCAL COPPERS.
SCREEECH
'SCUSE US!


WE REALLY HATE TO DO THIS BUT OUR CAR'S OUT OF GAS -- I MEAN PETROL -- SO WE SORT OF HAVE TO BORROW YOURS AWFULLY SORRY EMERGENCY A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH!
I DUNNO ABOUT THIS...
MOVE IT, BUB, OR LOSE IT!


AWFULLY HOSTILE.
AN' THAT'S HIS GOOD MOOD
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!
WANNA BET?
YOU GUYS LIKE "GUMBY?" OR "ZOIDS??"
THESE ARE MAJOR COMIC BOOK CREATORS!
ON THEIR WAY TO AN IMPORTANT SIGNING!
LIL ANA WILL NEVER BELIEVE THIS.
"SOME-PLACE STRANGE," FOR SURE.
MY BOYS JAMES AND EDWARD WOULD BE IN 7TH HEAVEN.

IF THEY'RE SO ALL-FIRED HOT...
...HOW COME THEY'RE RIDING...
...IN SUCH A WEENIE CAR?
HE'S SO TACTFUL.

COULDN'T FIT ALL CLAREMONT'S BAGS INTO MY FERRARI.
LIFE IS TOUGH
WE'LL TAKE BEST CARE OF YOUR CAR, MR LAKE, PROMISE! CIAO!

WHY'RE YOU ALL LOOKING AT ME?
AUGH!
IT'S A MANUAL SHIFT!
I ONLY KNOW HOW TO DRIVE AUTOMATIC!
GRIND
GOTTA BLAME SOMEONE, LUV.
UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, CONSIDERING THE CHARACTERS..

SOME MILES--AND A VERY CRABBY TRANSMISSION--DOWN THE M1 TOWARDS LONDON...
MR BOLTON'S A REAL GENTLEMAN.
IT WAS REALLY NICE OF HIM TO LOAN US SOME MONEY.
SNACK-A-DROME
PITY THERE'S NO McBURGER'S TO SPEND IT IN.
EVERYONE EATEN THEIR FILL? GONE TO THE BATHROOM?? THEN LET'S ROLL!
HAVOK'S ALWAYS BEEN MY FAVORITE X-MAN
COULD I PLEASE HAVE YOUR AUTO-GRAPH?
SURE.
HEY, HANDSOME!
HOLE UP A MINNIT, WILLYA!
STROIKE ME, MATES--
--CHECK OUT THE YOUTH MOVEMENT!
AN' FOLKS TALK RUDE ABOUT US!
THEY MAKIN' FUN?
GNORE THEM, SILLY BOY. ACT YOUR AGE
YOU DO, WOLVIE, AN' YOU DIE!
THIS MAKES TWO!
THE AGENT--HE GOT HAVOK!
INTO THE CAR, KIDS--NOW--
--AND NEVER EVER SIGN ANYTHING AGAIN!
OH NO, MY DEAR--
--I'M NOWHERE NEAR SO EASILY THWARTED
TO COIN A PHRASE:
...I'M THE BEST THERE IS AT WHAT I DO.

MANCHESTER...

WHERE MIKE LAKE'S CAR HAS UNFORTUNATELY PROVED TO CONTAIN EVEN LESS GAS THAN THE PATROL CAR AND A QUICK REVIEW OF THEIR FINANCES...

...REVEALED THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO GET THEM ANYWHERE NEAR THE REST OF THE WAY--

--EVEN IF THEY'D MANAGED TO FIND A STATION THAT'D SELL TO A CLEARLY UNDERAGE DRIVER.

WHICH MEANS LEAVING MIKE'S CAR SAFELY PARKED..

..AND RESORTING TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

WHICH WON'T TAKE US TERRIBLY FAR.

STILL NO LUCK PHONING.

TRIED "YELLING" MY THOUGHTS..

..BUT RAY MUST NOT BE LISTENING.

KIDS SEEM TO BE HAVING A BALL.

DESPITE THE AGENT.

BEST HOPE IS TO PLAY THIS AS A WOLVIE CAPER.

MOVE FAST, THINK SNEAKY.

CAN'T RISK TURNING TO ANYBODY WE DON'T KNOW.

GIVEN THE AGENT'S KNACK...

...FOR DISGUISE AND DECEPTION..

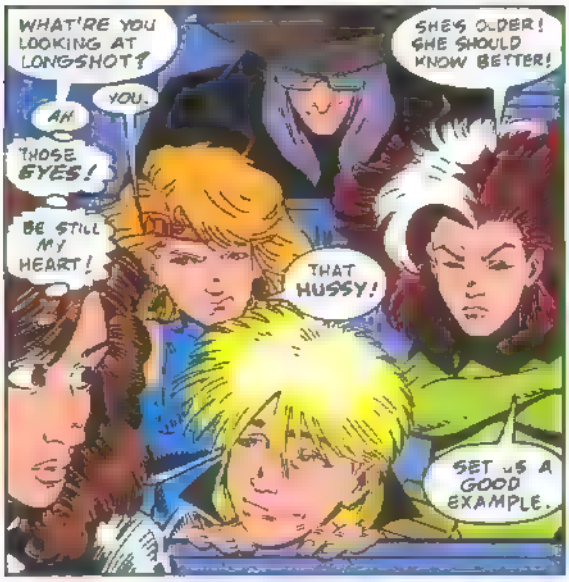
...HE COULD MASQUERADE AS ANYONE.

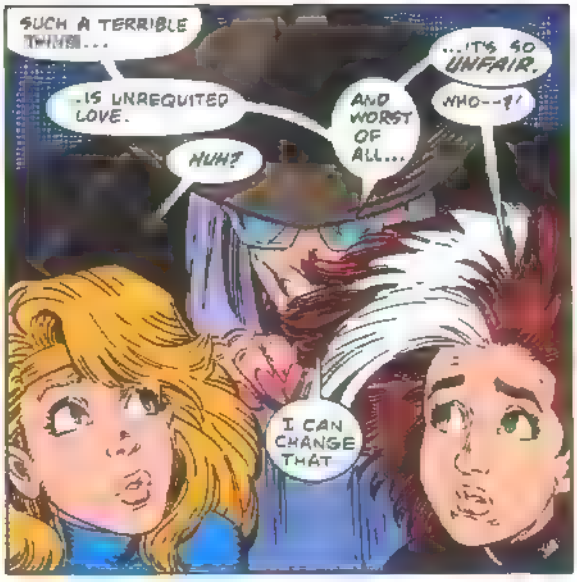
TEMPT US WITH OUR HEART'S DESIRE.

HAH! I FAKED HIM THERE, I GOT MINE!

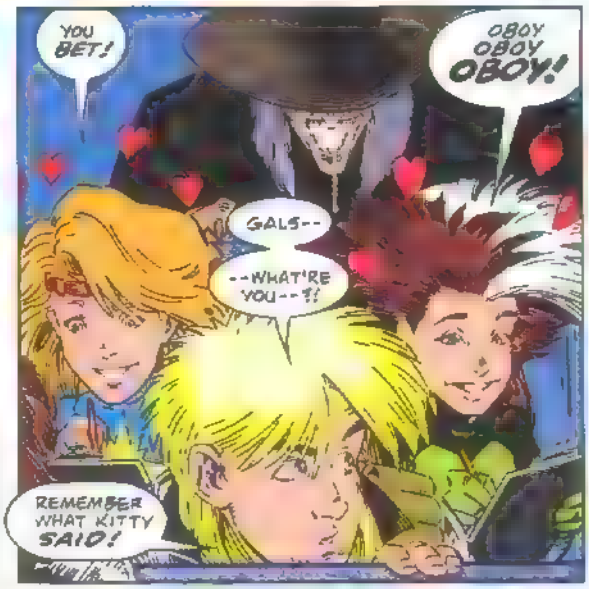
I'M BACK WITH THE X-MEN.

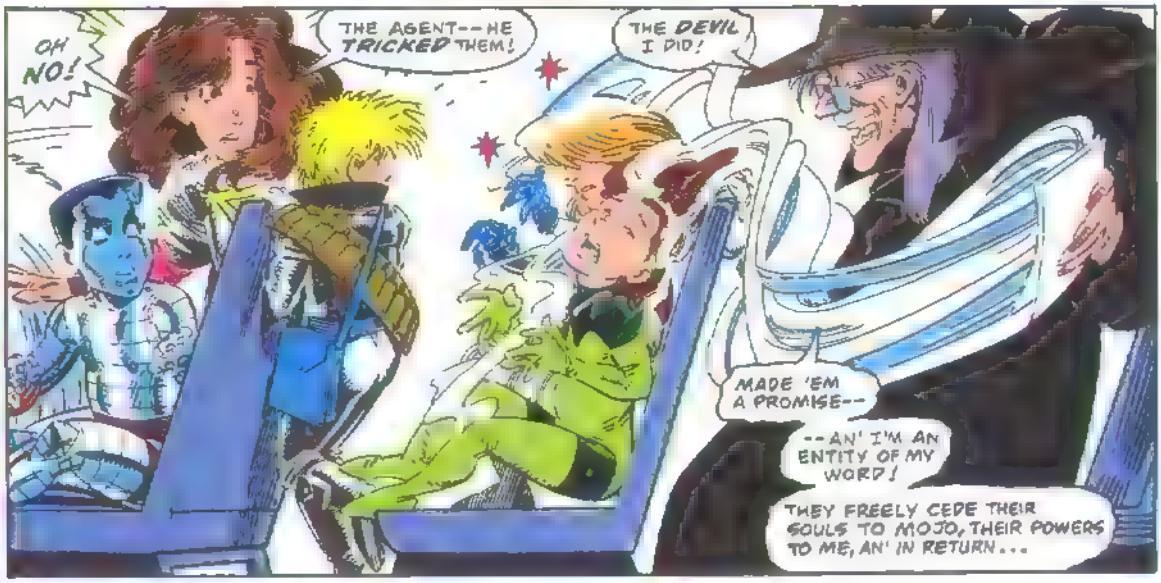
AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO LOSE THEM AGAIN.

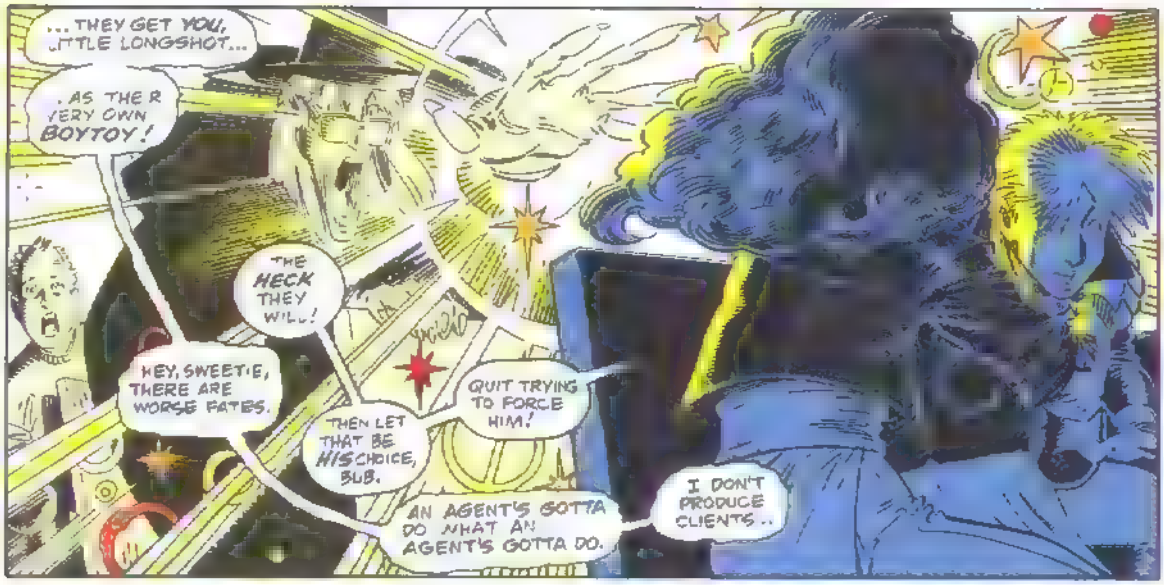

WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT LONGSHOT?
AH
YOU.
THOSE EYES!
BE STILL MY HEART!
SHE'S OLDER! SHE SHOULD KNOW BETTER!
THAT HUSSY!
SET US A GOOD EXAMPLE.


SUCH A TERRIBLE THING...
...IS UNREQUITED LOVE.
HUH?
AND WORST OF ALL...
...IT'S SO UNFAIR.
WHO--?!
I CAN CHANGE THAT

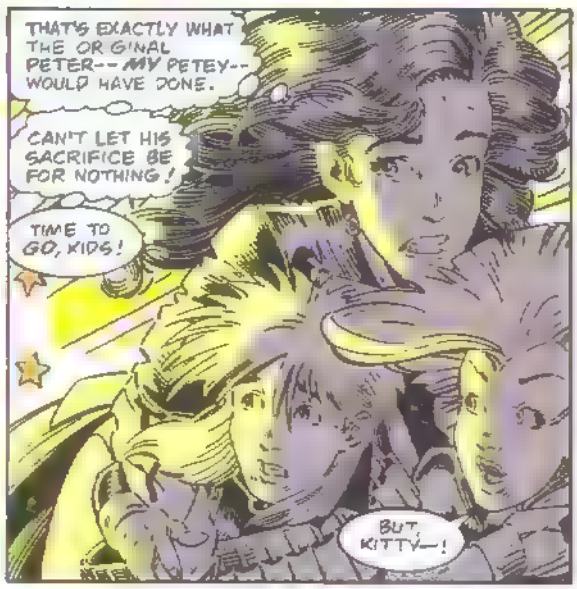
SIGN WITH ME...
...AND LOVERBOY'S YOURS.
FOREVER
ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE.
TEMPTED?


YOU BET!
OBOY OBOY OBOY!
GALS--
--WHAT'RE YOU--?!
REMEMBER WHAT KITTY SAID!

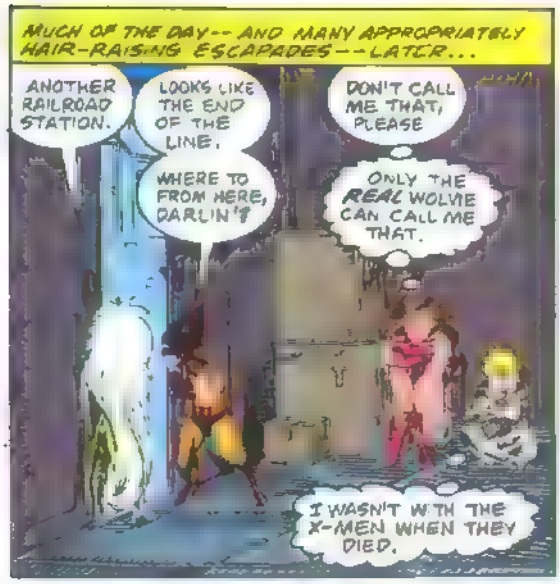

OH NO!
THE AGENT--HE TRICKED THEM!
THE DEVIL I DID!
MADE 'EM A PROMISE--
--AN' I'M AN ENTITY OF MY WORD!
THEY FREELY CEDE THEIR SOULS TO MOJO, THEIR POWERS TO ME, AN' IN RETURN...

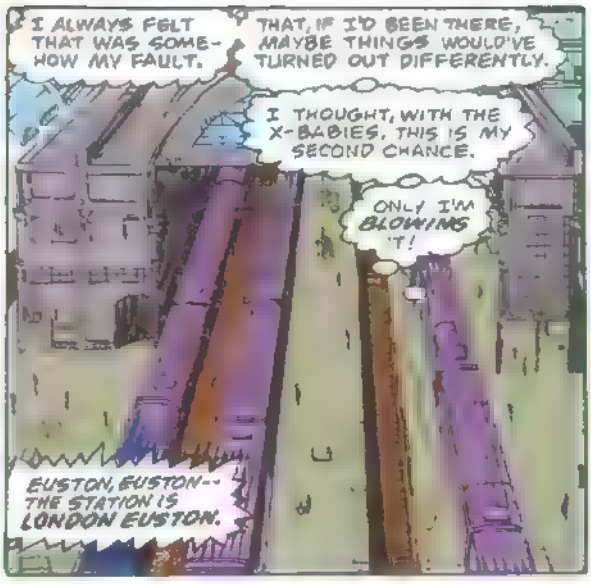

...THEY GET YOU, LITTLE LONGSHOT...
...AS THE VERY OWN BOYTOY!
THE HECK THEY WILL!
HEY, SWEETIE, THERE ARE WORSE FATES.
THEN LET THAT BE HIS CHOICE, BUB.
QUIT TRYING TO FORCE HIM!
AN AGENT'S GOTTA DO WHAT AN AGENT'S GOTTA DO.
I DON'T PRODUCE CLIENTS..

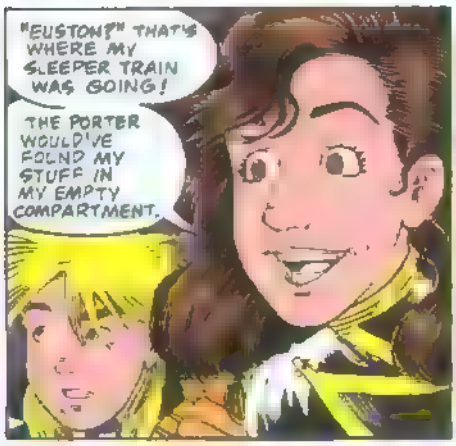
...THE BOSS DON'T DELIVER MY COMMISSION
COLOSSUS!
LEAVE KATYA BE, MONSTER!
GET AWAY, ALL OF YOU!
I WILL HOLD HIM HERE--
--AS LONG AS I AM ABLE!

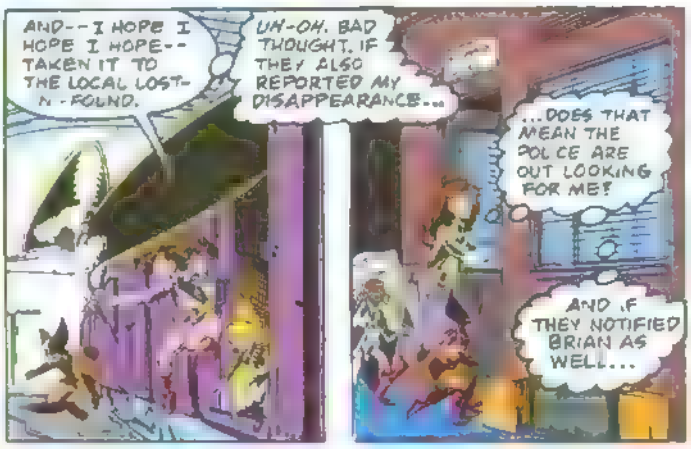

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THE ORIGINAL PETER--MY PETEY--WOULD HAVE DONE.
CAN'T LET HIS SACRIFICE BE FOR NOTHING!
TIME TO GO, KIDS!
BUT, KITTY--!

I KNOW, STORM, I HATE LEAVING COLOSSUS, TOO.
BUT WE'RE NO MATCH FOR THE POWERS THE AGENT'S ABSORBED.
WE DON'T EVEN DARE HURT HIM...
...UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT HOW TO RELEASE THE OTHERS' LIFE-FORCES.
RUNNING ON AIR--NEAT!
IG--LITTLE WOLVERINE, WATCH THE GRABBY HANDS!

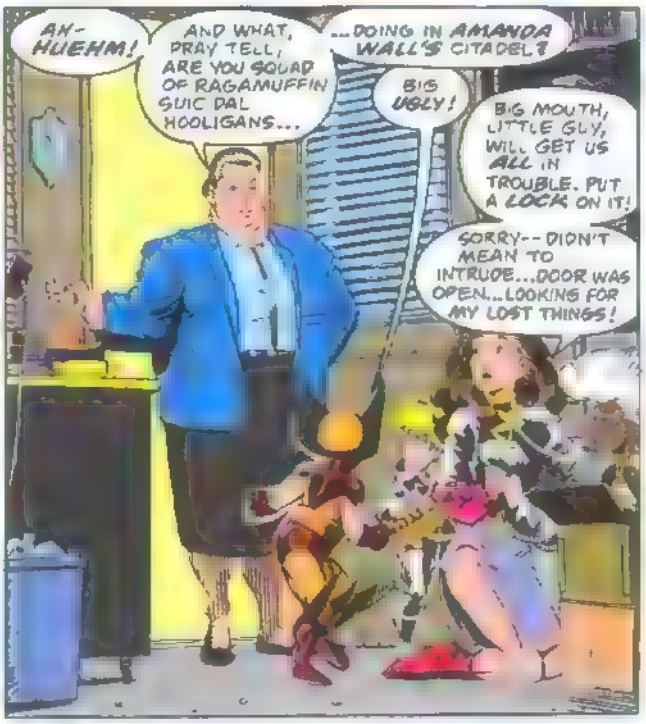

MUCH OF THE DAY-- AND MANY APPROPRIATELY HAIR-RAISING ESCAPADES--LATER...
ANOTHER RAILROAD STATION.
LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE LINE.
WHERE TO FROM HERE, DARLIN'?
DON'T CALL ME THAT, PLEASE
ONLY THE REAL WOLVIE CAN CALL ME THAT.
I WASN'T WITH THE X-MEN WHEN THEY DIED.


I ALWAYS FELT THAT WAS SOMEHOW MY FAULT.
THAT, IF I'D BEEN THERE, MAYBE THINGS WOULD'VE TURNED OUT DIFFERENTLY.
I THOUGHT, WITH THE X-BABIES, THIS IS MY SECOND CHANCE.
ONLY I'M BLOWING IT!
EUSTON, EUSTON-- THE STATION IS LONDON EUSTON.

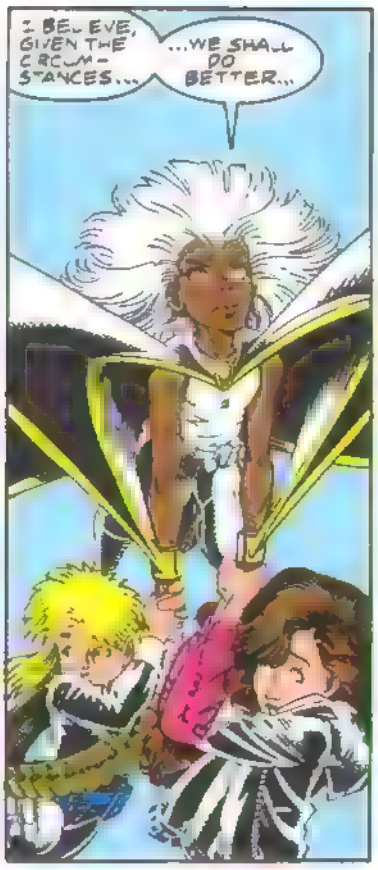

"EUSTON?" THAT'S WHERE MY SLEEPER TRAIN WAS GOING!
THE PORTER WOULD'VE FOUND MY STUFF IN MY EMPTY COMPARTMENT.

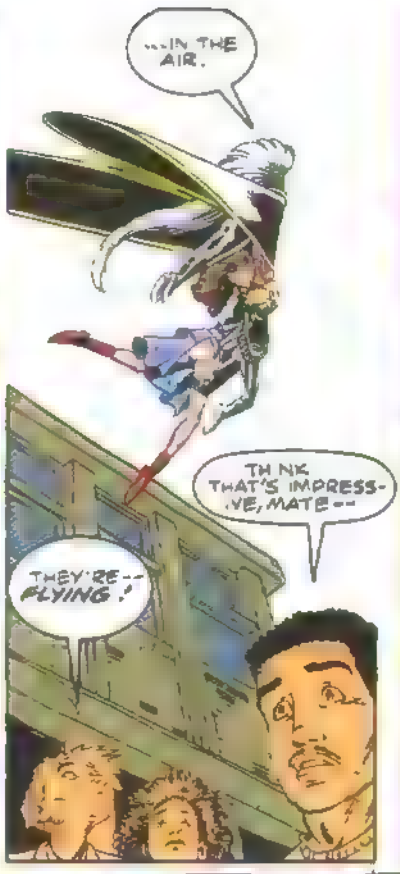

AND--I HOPE I HOPE I HOPE-- TAKEN IT TO THE LOCAL LOST-N-FOUND.
UH-OH. BAD THOUGHT. IF THEY ALSO REPORTED MY DISAPPEARANCE...
...DOES THAT MEAN THE POLICE ARE OUT LOOKING FOR ME?
AND IF THEY NOTIFIED BRIAN AS WELL...

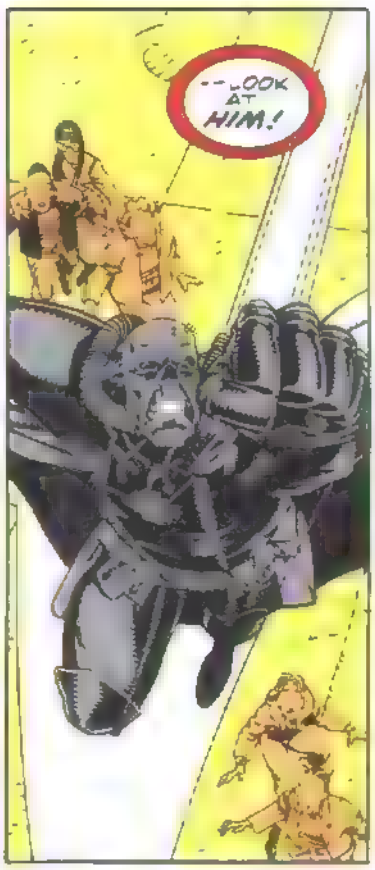
...THEN EXCALIBUR MIGHT NOT BE HOME FOR US TO CONTACT.
YYYAY!
MY BAG! MY STUFF! MY JACKET!
WHERE'D A STIFF LIKE YOU...
...EVER GET SOMETHING SO TOTAL?
EAT YOUR HEART OUT, SHRIMP.

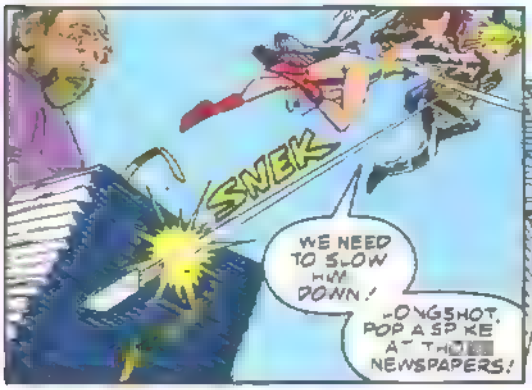

AH-HUEHM!
AND WHAT, PRAY TELL, ARE YOU SQUAD OF RAGAMUFFIN SUICIDAL HOOLIGANS...
...DOING IN AMANDA WALL'S CITADEL?
BIG UGLY!
BIG MOUTH, LITTLE GUY, WILL GET US ALL IN TROUBLE. PUT A LOCK ON IT!
SORRY--DIDN'T MEAN TO INTRUDE...DOOR WAS OPEN...LOOKING FOR MY LOST THINGS!

THAT'S ALL VERY WELL, MY GIRL...
..BUT THERE ARE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED.
CAN'T HAVE YOU TRAIPSING THROUGH MY DOMAIN, ROOTING THROUGH BOXES OF OTHER PEOPLES' LEFT-OVER LIVES.
IN MY CARE, THEY'RE MY RESPONSIBILITY.
MY MISTAKE... QUITE UNDERSTAND... AWFULLY SORRY.
AND WELL YOU SHOULD BE!
RECEIPT. QUINTUPLICATE. SIGN.
BUT KITTY TOLD US...
...NEVER TO SIGN ANYTHING.
I INTERFERE...
... SHE'LL PROBABLY BE...
...REAL MAD.
I REALLY REALLY CAN'T.
SNIKT
I MUST!
TEE HEE HEE!
YAOW!
BIG NOISE!
THE AGENT...
...I ALMOST...
...LET'S GET OTTA HERE!
KITTY, WE LOST WOLVIE!
HE'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.
HE'LL LIKE THAT.
HE'S MINE!
MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELVES--
--QUIT BEFORE THIS GETS MESSY!
HEALING POWER, BAD ATTITUDE, CLAWS AND ALL!
GANGWAY!
I SAY!
PARDON US! COMING THROUGH ON THE RUN!

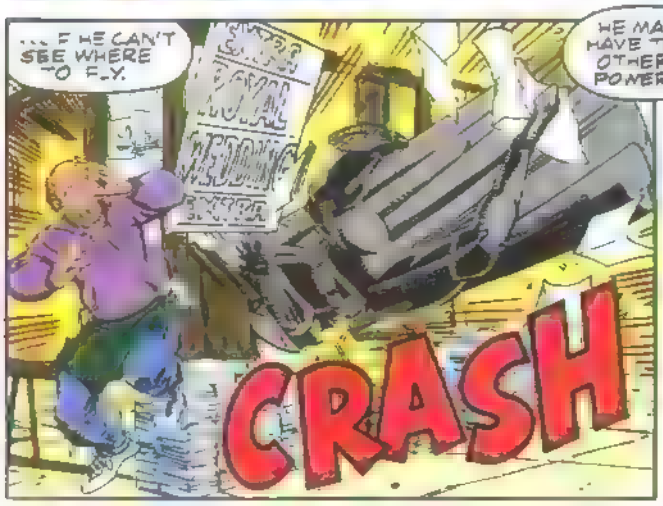

I BELIEVE, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES...
...WE SHALL DO BETTER...

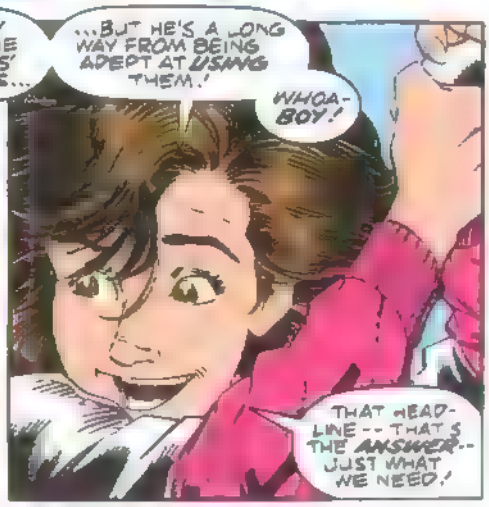

...IN THE AIR.
THINK THAT'S IMPRESSIVE, MATE--
THEY'RE-- FLYING!


--LOOK AT HIM!


SNEK
WE NEED TO SLOW HIM DOWN!
--LONGSHOT, POP A SPIKE AT THOSE NEWSPAPERS!

PUNCH UP A WIND STORM--
--A PRIMO STRONG GUST!
WAGH!
CAN'T FOLLOW US...


...IF HE CAN'T SEE WHERE TO FLY.
CRASH


HE MAY HAVE THE OTHERS' POWERS...
...BUT HE'S A LONG WAY FROM BEING ADEPT AT USING THEM.
WHOA-BOY!
THAT HEADLINE -- THAT'S THE ANSWER-- JUST WHAT WE NEED!

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL--

--CROWN JEWEL OF THE LONDON SKYLINE BUILT BY SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN IN THE 1600'S--

--WHOSE ELEGANT MAJESTY SHONE THROUGH THE BLITZ AND STILL MANAGES TO SHAME THE MODERN, AESTHETICALLY STERILE OFFICE BLOCKS RISING NEARBY...

IF EVER THERE WAS A CHURCH OF STATE--AND A ROYAL ONE AT THAT--THIS IS IT.

THOUGH JUDITH RASSENDYLL STILL CAN'T QUITE BELIEVE SHE'S HERE, STRIDING DOWN THE CENTRAL AISLE TO THE MELODIOUS STRAINS OF HANDEL'S WATER MUSIC.

NOT SO LONG AGO, SHE WAS A YOUNG UPWARDLY MOBILE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN, FIGHTING TO MAKE A CAREER IN THE URBAN JUNGLE OF MANHATTAN.

NOW, SHE'S A PRINCESS. SOLE SURVIVING HEIR TO THE THRONE OF A SMALL MIDDLE-EUROPEAN COUNTRY. RELATED EVEN TO THE MONARCHY OF ENGLAND.

ABOUT, FOR REASONS OF STATE POLICY, TO BE MARRIED.

ROYAL WEDDINGS, SHE DECIDES, AS BOTH GOWN AND DUTY WEIGH HEAVILY ON HER, ARE THINGS MUCH BETTER WATCHED ON TELEVISION THAN PARTICIPATED IN.

STILL, IF DI AND FERGIE CAN MUDDLE THROUGH.

...WHOSOEVER HATH OBJECTIONS TO THIS UNION, LET HIM SPEAK NOW...

EH!!?

...OR FOREVERMORE HOLD HIS PIECE...

I BEG YOUR PARDON!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT, AUNTY BEEB,* POINT THOSE CAMERAS RIGHT AT ME!

...AND GLUED TO THE TUBE!

OH CRUMBS, I FORGOT--SHE'S FUNCTIONALLY ILLITERATE, SHE CAN BARELY READ!

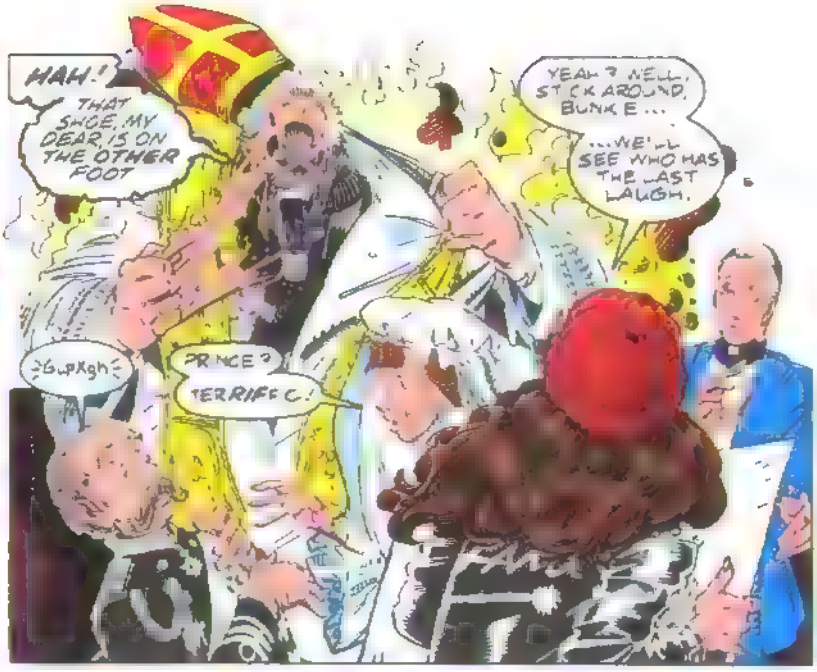
AND YOU, MEGGAN, PLEASE BE TRUE TO TYPE..

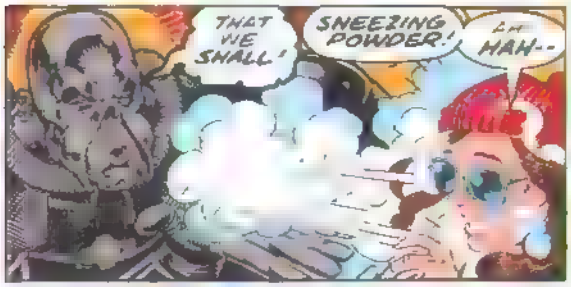
EXCALIBUR EMERGENCY HELP!

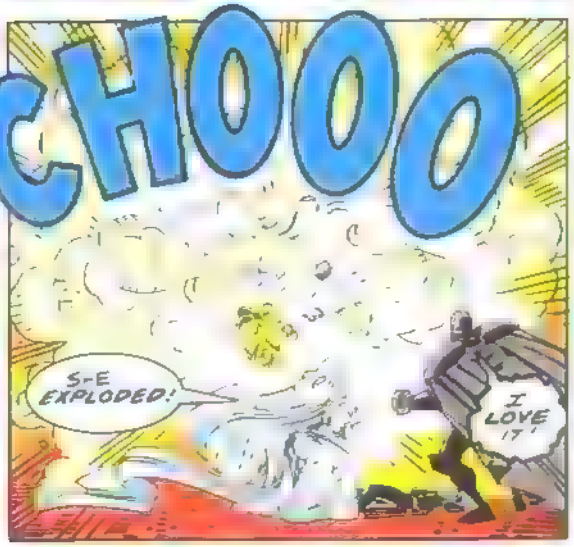
MEG--THIS IS [redacted]--COME A' RUNNIN'!

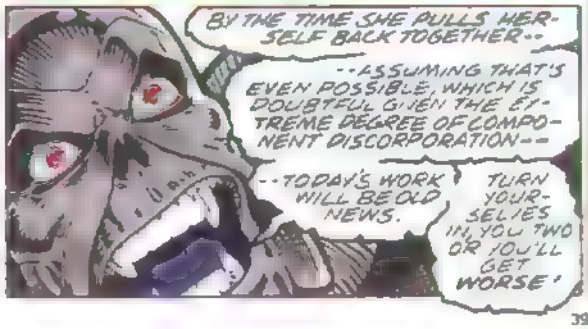
*BBC=BRITISH BROADCASTING COMPANY.--TK

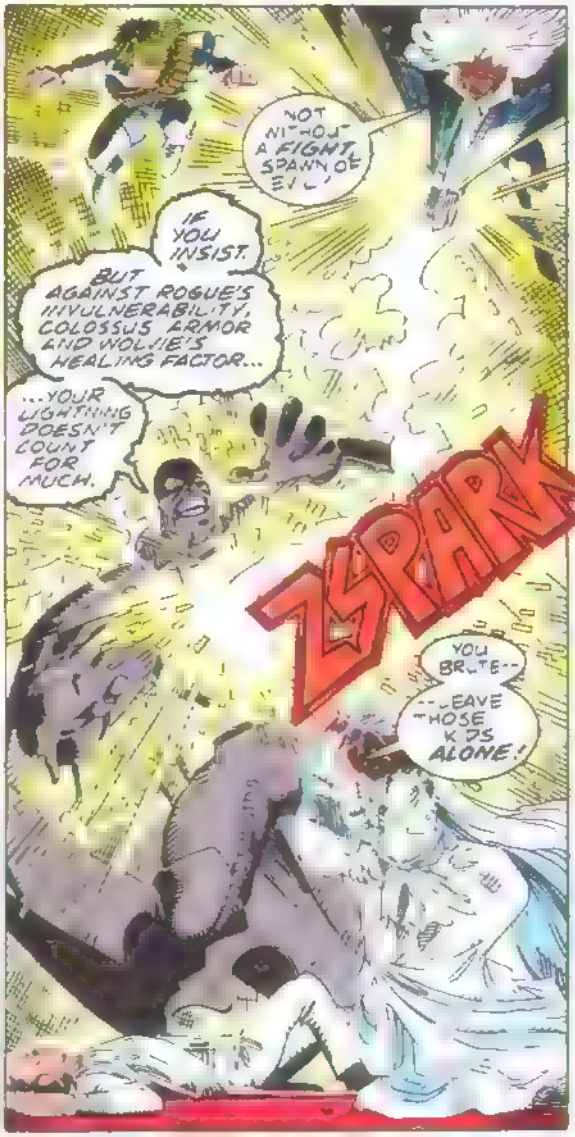
WRETCHED SHADOWBRAT.
DID YOU THINK YOU'D CATCH ME BY SURPRISE?

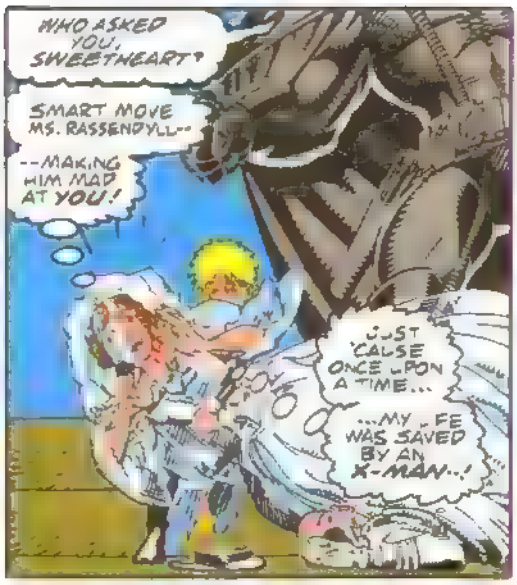

HAH!
THAT SHOE, MY DEAR, IS ON THE OTHER FOOT
YEAH? WELL, STICK AROUND, BUNKIE...
...WE'LL SEE WHO HAS THE LAST LAUGH.
GUPXGH
PRINCE?
TERRIFIC!

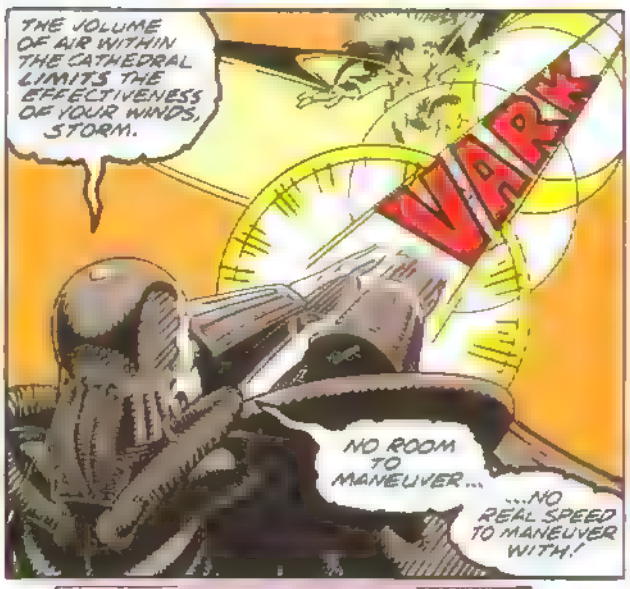

THAT WE SHALL!
SNEEZING POWDER!
AH HAH--

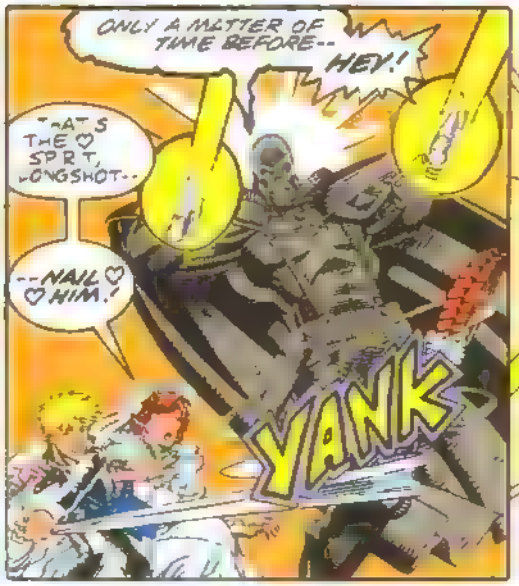

CHOOO
SHE EXPLODED!
I LOVE IT!

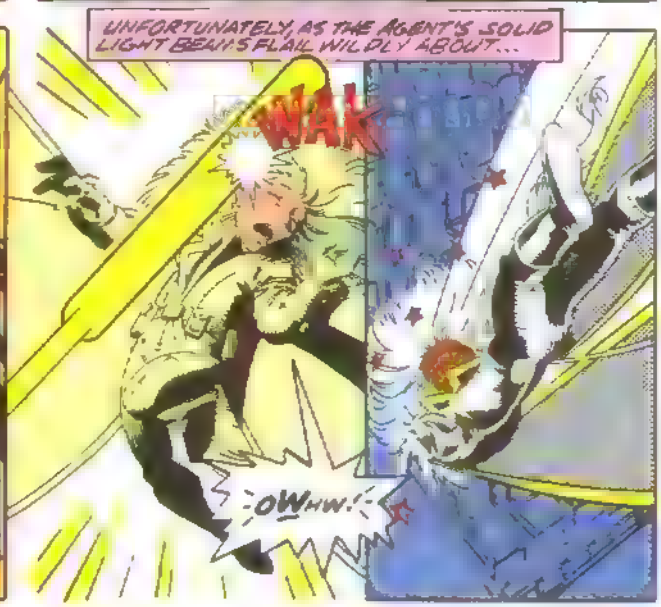

BY THE TIME SHE PULLS HERSELF BACK TOGETHER--
--ASSUMING THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE, WHICH IS DOUBTFUL GIVEN THE EXTREME DEGREE OF COMPONENT DISCORPORATION--
--TODAY'S WORK WILL BE OLD NEWS.
TURN YOURSELVES IN, YOU TWO OR YOU'LL GET WORSE!


NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT, SPAWN OF EVIL!
IF YOU INSIST.
BUT AGAINST ROGUE'S INVULNERABILITY, COLOSSUS' ARMOR AND WOLVERINE'S HEALING FACTOR...
...YOUR LIGHTNING DOESN'T COUNT FOR MUCH.
ZSPARK
YOU BRUTE--
--LEAVE THOSE KIDS ALONE!


WHO ASKED YOU, SWEETHEART?
SMART MOVE MS. RASSENDYLL--
--MAKING HIM MAD AT YOU!
JUST CAUSE ONCE UPON A TIME...
...MY LIFE WAS SAVED BY AN X-MAN..!


THE VOLUME OF AIR WITHIN THE CATHEDRAL LIMITS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUR WINDS, STORM.
VARK
NO ROOM TO MANEUVER...
...NO REAL SPEED TO MANEUVER WITH!


ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE--
HEY!
--THAT'S THE SPIRIT, LONGSHOT--
--NAIL HIM!
YANK


UNFORTUNATELY, AS THE AGENT'S SOLID LIGHT BEAMS FLAIL WILDLY ABOUT...
WAK
OWHW!

DONE IT!
MYSELF AGAIN AS SOLID AS I GET!
OH, GEEZ--STORM!

SHE HITS LIKE THAT SHE'LL BREAK HER HEAD!
NO!
SHE CAN'T--I'LL LOSE THE COMMISSION!

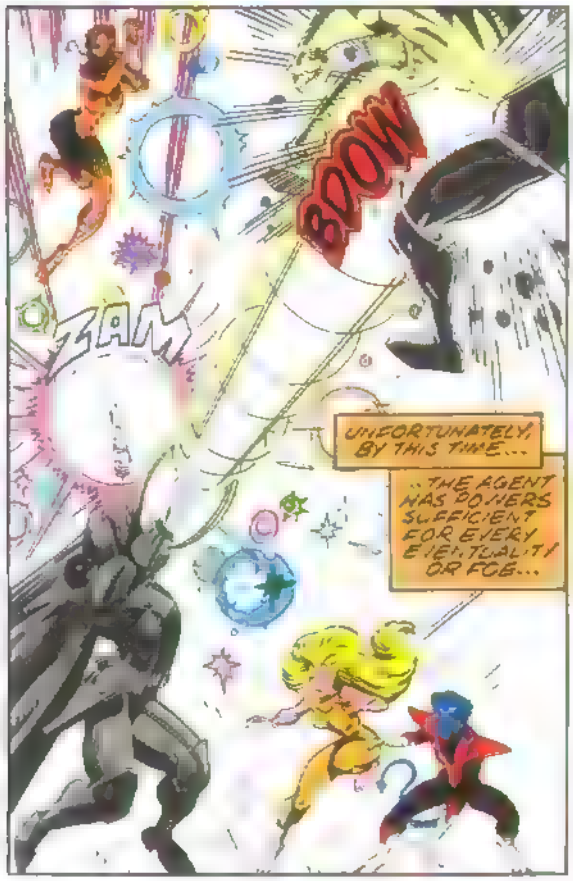
CAUGHT HER!
GOOD GRIEF!
BRIGADIER STUART! BOY, TALK ABOUT A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!
THERE'S THE BAD GUY--GET HIM!

BUT EVEN AS ALYSANDE STUART LEADS HER CRACK WHO* STRIKE SQUAD INTO ACTION, THEY'RE STOPPED IN THEIR TRACKS BY A DAZZLE-BLAST.

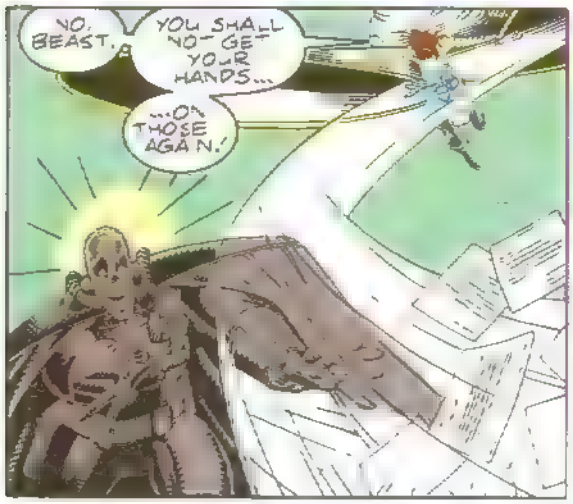
NOT SO, HOWEVER--

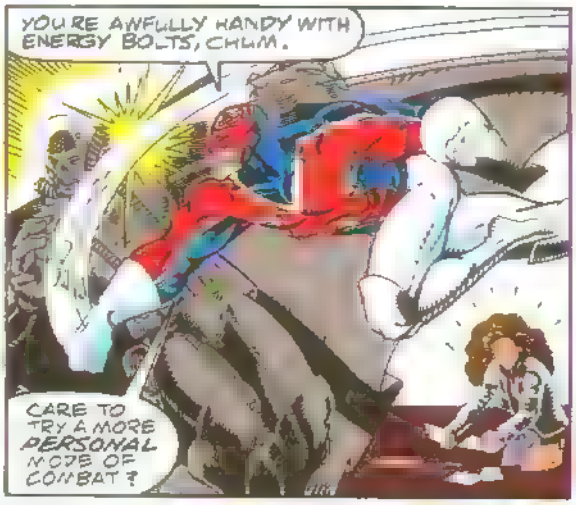
EXCALIBUR!

*WHO = WEIRD HAPPENINGS ORGANIZATION, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S PARA-NORMAL INVESTIGATIONS TEAM--TK.

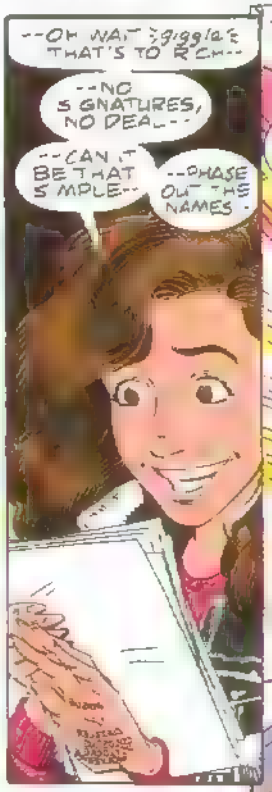


IF THOSE PAPERS ARE SO IMPORTANT...
...MAYBE I CAN MAKE UP FOR GETTING STORM BOPPED...
...BY SPIKING THEM AWAY FROM HIM
MY BAG--
--MY CONTRACTS!
ZZZZWIP


NO, BEAST.
YOU SHALL NOT GET YOUR HANDS...
...ON THOSE AGAIN!

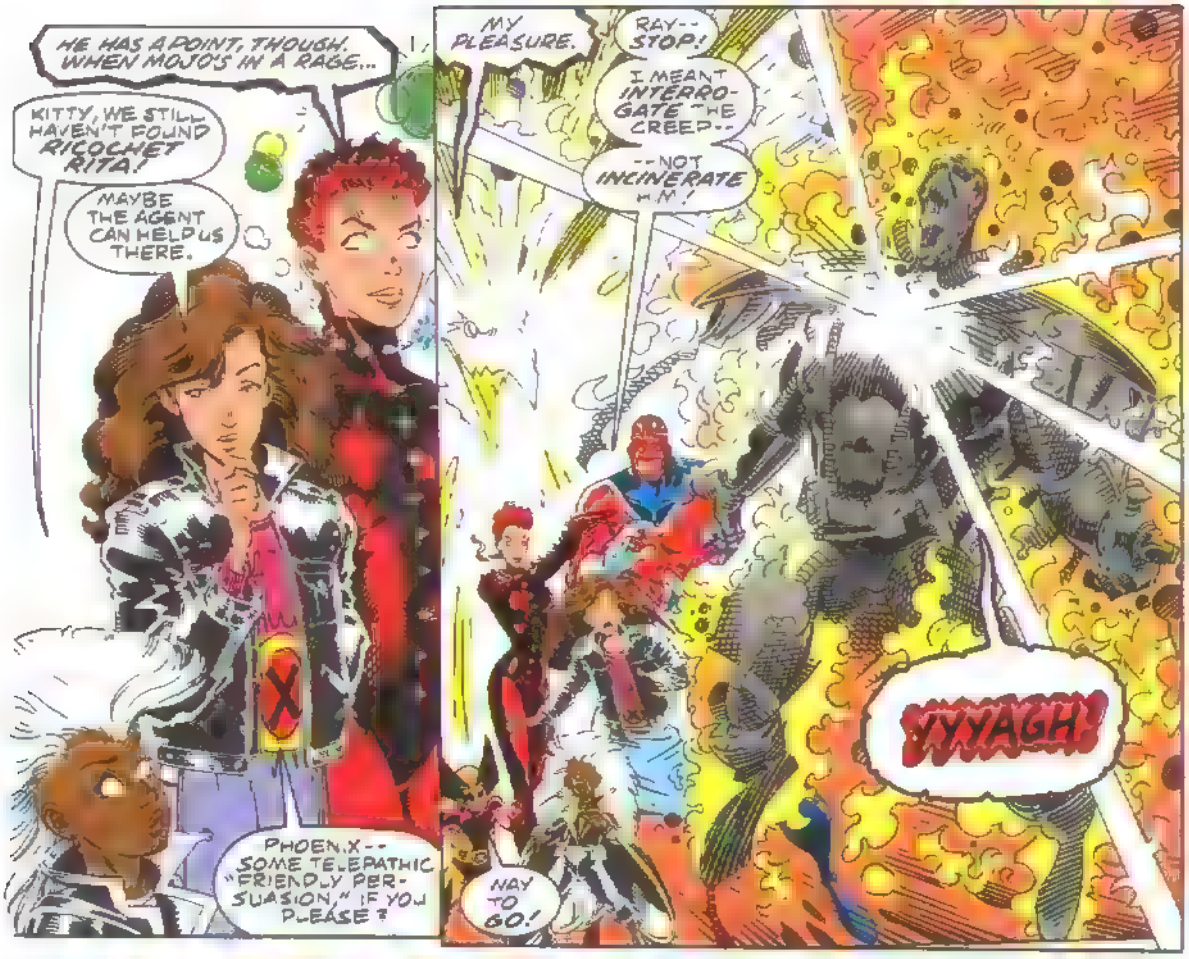

YOU'RE AWFULLY HANDY WITH ENERGY BOLTS, CHUM.
CARE TO TRY A MORE PERSONAL MODE OF COMBAT?

OKAY, WE GOT THE PAPERS--BIG DEAL--WHAT GOOD'LL THAT DO...SO LONG AS THEY'RE SIGNED THEY REMAIN IN FORCE--


--OH WAIT! giggle! THAT'S TO RICH--
--NO SIGNATURES, NO DEAL--
--CAN IT BE THAT SIMPLE--
--PHASE OUT THE NAMES.

--WORTH THE TRY, WHAT'VE WE GOT TO LOSE?
BINGO!
YO, AGENT--GUESS WHAT!

UH... UH...
...I WAS JUST DOIN' MY JOB, RIGHT--
--NO HARD FEELINGS?
KRAKOW
ZAP
BANG
ZING
POW
AND SO...
JUDITH RASSENDYLL.
NIGHTCRAWLER!
..AS HANDSOME AS EVER
SHE'S A PRINCESS..
NOT EVEN A CHANCE THIS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE.
THESE APPEAR, SANDY TO BE OTHER-DIMENSIONAL REPLICANTS...
...OF THE X-MEN
GLAD TO SEE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE TO SKIP OUT ON THE BLOAT.
HAVE A HEART! I DON'T BRING BACK THE KIDS. INNOCENT LIVES'LL SUFFER!
YOU THINK YOU CAN GET YOUR OWN WAY BY PLAYING ON OUR SYMPATHIES?
I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D MEET AGAIN.*
YOUR GRACE-- WE MUST AWAY FROM HERE.
* WE SAVED HER LIFE FROM ARCADE IN X-MEN #204. -TK
HE'S MOJO'S AGENT, CAP HE'LL TRY ANYTHING

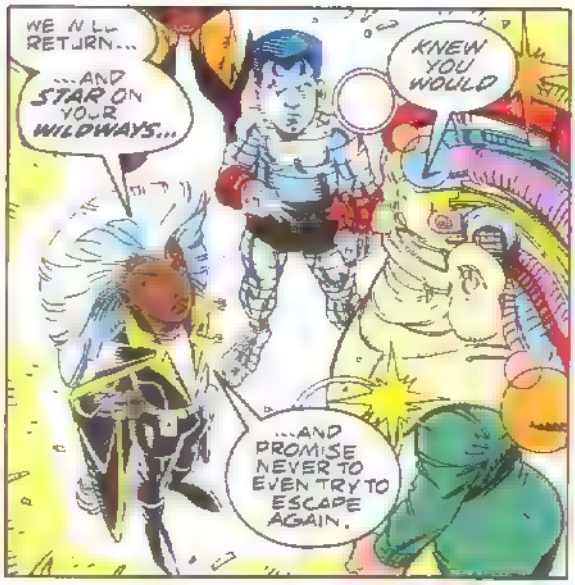

HE HAS A POINT, THOUGH. WHEN MOJO'S IN A RAGE...
KITTY, WE STILL HAVEN'T FOUND RICOCHET RITA!
MAYBE THE AGENT CAN HELP US THERE.
PHOENIX-- SOME TELEPATHIC "FRIENDLY PERSUASION," IF YOU PLEASE?
MY PLEASURE.
RAY-- STOP!
I MEANT INTERROGATE -HE CREEP--
--NOT INCINERATE -M!
NAY TO GO!
YYYAGH!

TRUST ME, KITTY.
I REALLY DO KNOW...

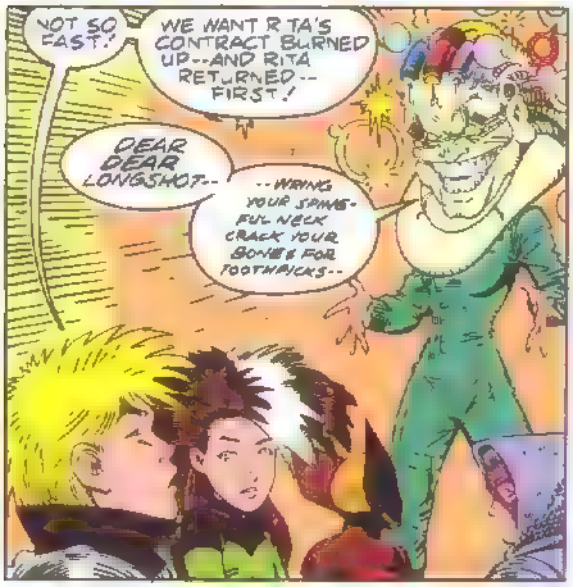
...WHAT I'M DOING.

THAT'S RITA--
--I RECOGNIZE HER FROM PSYLOCKE'S MEMORY PROJECTIONS!
TRUST THAT TWISTED SLUG MOJO...
--TO USE HER AS HIS PET HUNTER.

MOST GENEROUS COMPLIMENT, SHADEXPUSS, MUCH APPRECIATED.
MERELY GIVING A DEVIL HIS DUE, BLOAT.
NICE TALK. SAD SO SAD THAT WHILE SNEAKY-SHADOW JOINED YOUR CONTRACTS, BABIES--
--HOW UNETHICAL CAN YOU GET, I ASK YOU--
--SHE CAN'T DO THE SAME FOR THE RICOCHET.
YOU ALL MAY BE FREE.
SHE REMAINS ETERNALLY MINE.
I ALMOST FRIED YOU ONCE, MOJO.
YOU WANT ME TO TAKE A SECOND SHOT?
YEAH, RAY--THINK ABOUT IT!
WHAT D' YOU WANT TO BET THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT HE WANTS.
LEAVE HER ALONE!
NO FAIR, YOU BIG BULLY...
...PICKING ON RITA.
WANT A DIFFERENT OUTCOME, SMALL FRY, MAKE A BETTER OFFER.
WHAT CAN WE DO?
NOT THAT...
WORKS FOR ME
HEY, KITTY!
ARGH!
HUDDLE
WHAT'S UP, DOCS?
WE WERE THINKING
NEW EXPERIENCE, HUH?
HUDDLE CONFLICT
DON'T YOU START
TURN TABLES
LOVE TO STAY AND PLAY
WON'T ABANDON RITA
ANY MORE-'N SHE WOULD US
WAIT LL MY CLAWS GET BIGGER, TUBBO!
DEBATE
MOJO, WE WISH TO MAKE A DEAL!
MUSIC TO MY EARS!


WE'LL RETURN...
...AND STAR ON YOUR WILDWAYS...
KNEW YOU WOULD
...AND PROMISE NEVER TO EVEN TRY TO ESCAPE AGAIN.

BETTER AND BETTER
BEHOLD, BRATS YOUR TELEPORTAL AWAITS!
HURRY ON HOME NOW. REMEMBER--
--TIME WASTED IS LUCRE LOST.
BOOM


NOT SO FAST!
WE WANT RITA'S CONTRACT BURNED UP--AND RITA RETURNED--FIRST!
DEAR DEAR LONGSHOT--
--WRING YOUR SPINEFUL NECK CRACK YOUR BONES FOR TOOTHPICKS--

--WHAT ASSURANCE HAVE I, SAVE HER, THAT YOU'LL DO AS YOU PROMISE?
WE ARE HEROES!

GUARANTEE ENOUGH FOR ANYONE.
SWASH

S SHE--?!
SHAKEN AND WOOZY, BRIGADIER.
SMA... WONDER!
WHAT A BEASTLY CREATURE!
BE THANKFUL, MEG, YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT.
RITA'S MIND SCANS CLEAR, FOLKS.
BLOAT PLAYED THIS HAND STRAIGHT.
WANT YOUR CLOTHES BACK, GUYS?
YOU NEED THEM MORE THAN WE, YES?
AND WE'LL GET NEW ONES ON THE OTHER SIDE.
DA SVIDANYA, PIOTR NIKOLIEVITCH.
BE SEEING YOU, KITTY!

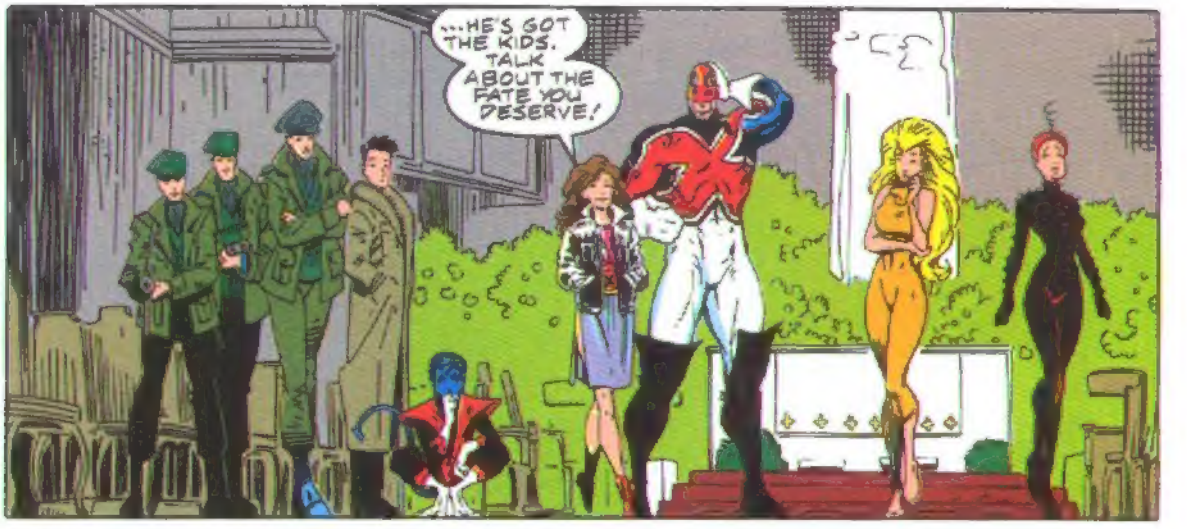
REST EASY, MISS. YOU'RE FREE NOW, AMONG FRIENDS...
...AND SAFE
ARE YOU NUTS?!
WHAT'VE YOU DONE?!
MY KIDS!
WHO CARES ABOUT SAFETY-- WHAT GOOD IS FREEDOM-- WHEN THE PRICE IS SO HIGH?!
IT WAS THEIR CHOICE!

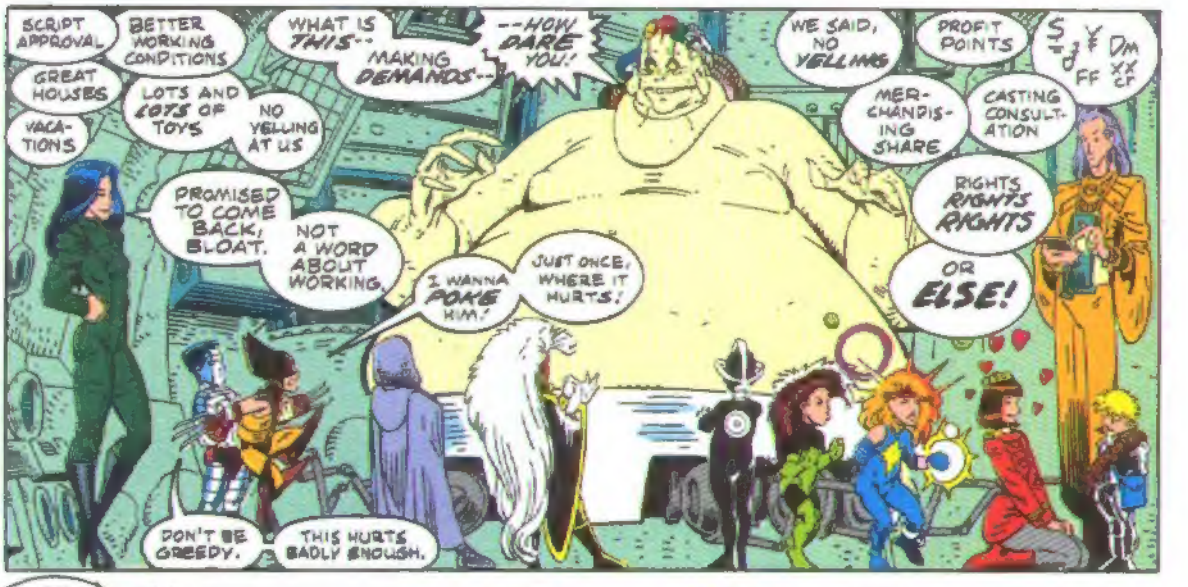
AND THIS IS MINE!
EVERYONE I KNOW AND CARE ABOUT IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT PORTAL.
(NOT TO MENTION THE STAGE OF A LIFETIME...
...THE CHANCE TO WALK THE ULTIMATE GLORY ROAD!)

APPRECIATE THE HELP REALLY!
PLINK
BUT I WON'T ABANDON THE KIDS.
I MEAN, WHO ELSE IS GONNA KEEP 'EM OUT OF TROUBLE...

RIGHT ON, RITA--
--YEAH!
KITTY, I HARDLY THINK THIS IS A MOMENT FOR CELEBRATION.
THE VILLAIN WON THIS DAY.
I BET THAT'S WHAT HE THINKS, TOO.

BUT YOU SHOULD ALWAYS BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR, CAPTAIN...
...BECAUSE YOU MAY JUST GET IT.
RIGHT IN THE TEETH.
SURE, MOJO'S GOT THE KIDS.
HIS PROBLEM NOW IS...


...HE'S GOT THE KIDS. TALK ABOUT THE FATE YOU DESERVE!


SCRIPT APPROVAL
BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS
GREAT HOUSES
VACATIONS
LOTS AND LOTS OF TOYS
NO YELLING AT US
WHAT IS THIS-- MAKING DEMANDS--
--HOW DARE YOU!
WE SAID, NO YELLING
PROFIT POINTS
MERCHANDISING SHARE
CASTING CONSULTATION
RIGHTS RIGHTS RIGHTS
OR ELSE!
PROMISED TO COME BACK, BLOAT.
NOT A WORD ABOUT WORKING.
I WANNA POKE HIM!
JUST ONCE, WHERE IT HURTS!
DON'T BE GREEDY.
THIS HURTS BADLY ENOUGH.

HOW CAN YOU DO THIS TO ME?
HEY, WE MAY BE HERE...
...BUT WE DON'T PERFORM...
...UNLESS WE GET WHAT WE WANT!
YOU WANT US X-BABIES TO PROVIDE TOP RATINGS...
...THEN YOU GOTTA MAKE REALLY ULTRA ESPECIALLY NICE!
HELP!
AND SO IT GOES...

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